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U.S. SDI, ABM TESTING VIOLATES ARMS ACCORDS

LD270950 Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 27 Feb 85

["Who Sabotages Commitments?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- "The USA has set out to undermine the agreement reached with the Soviet Union earlier on the limitation and reduction of weapons, through evading them and at times directly violating them," the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes.

"The USA has proclaimed the so-called 'strategic defence' programme and is thus torpedoing the Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile defence (ABM) systems, which was concluded for an indefinite term," the newspaper stresses. "Thus, in particular, it is planned to deploy a large-scale ABM system with outer space based elements, which is directly prohibited by the agreement."

On June 10 last year, a "Minuteman" missile was launched from the U.S. Vandenberg base in California. Over the Pacific it was intercepted by a missile of the same type launched from Meek Island in Kwajalein archipelago. The latter was specially reequipped for ABM purposes. Such tests are in conflict with the U.S. commitments under the Soviet-American treaty.

Contrary to the commitment not to deploy ABM complexes in the country's territory the Pentagon put up in the bases in Beale (Pacific coast) and Otis (Atlantic coast) radar stations of the "Pave Paws" type, which ensure a radar coverage of a larger part of United States territory.

"The USA signed the SALT-2 treaty in the summer of 1979, but refused to put it into effect. Yet Washington has committed itself to 'refrain from actions' undermining that agreement", the commentary says. Yet by starting the deployment in Western Europe of Pershing-2 and long range ground-based cruise missiles, the American side has violated the provisions of the SALT-2 treaty, planning to evade the treaty through other state of states [as received] or in any other way and to make commitments in conflict with the treaty.

While agreeing by word of mouth with the principle of equality and equal security, the USA is doing its utmost to ensure that there is no equal security." [quotation marks as received]

"In 1974 the USSR and the USA signed a treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests to the threshold of 150 kilotons. Washington has not ratified that treaty, but committed itself to comply with it," the newspaper points out. Yet instances when the American side exceeded the threshold have been registered. This was accompanied with a discharge of radio-active substances into the atmosphere, which is a breach of the treaty of 1963 banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, outer space and under water.

They in the Pentagon do not conceal that the USA has started implementing a programme for a sharp build-up and modernisation of weapons. Hence the USA does not ratify the treaties signed earlier and evades talks on complete and general ban on nuclear weapons tests." [quotation marks as received]

COMPARISON TO TASS ARMS VIOLATIONS REBUTTAL

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 28 February in its First Edition carries on page 4 a TASS report entitled "In the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs," on the Soviet rebuttal to U.S. charges of arms accord violations. The PRAVDA report has been compared to the TASS version, published under the general headline "Reaction to U.S. Arms Limitation Violation Charges" and the subhead "TASS Rebuttal to Charges" on page AA 2 of the 27 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, line one, PRAVDA omits dateline.

Paragraph two, line two reads in PRAVDA:...of agreements, since it is known that its scornful attitude toward them in recent...(rewording);

Paragraph three, line five reads:...been properly characterized, including the Soviet aide-memoire...(rewording);

Page AA 3, first paragraph, line two reads:...involved in the implementation of plans for militarizing... (inserting "implementation of");

Same paragraph, penultimate and last lines read:... strike weapons are intended to exceed...(inserting "intended");

Paragraph five, line one begins:... It is by no means an accident that...(rewording);

Paragraph seven, penultimate line reads:...the way toward reaching new, effective agreements...(inserting "reaching");

Last paragraph, penultimate line reads:...first strike systems (sredstva dlya naneseniya pervogo udara). This is how... (supplying vernacular);

Page AA 4, first paragraph, line three reads:...improving nuclear missile systems (sredstva) of some NATO...(supplying vernacular);

Paragraph three, line four reads:...implemented, would mean that the United States would far overstep the treaty limitations... (rewording);

Paragraph four, line six reads:...ever new nuclear charges which more often... (substituting "charges" for "devices");

Paragraph five, line five reads:...the meantime, U.S.-made toxic substances have killed... (rewording);

Paragraph six, lines one and two read:...United States is sabotaging an international agreement...(substituting "sabotaging" for "obstructing");

Same paragraph, line three reads:...are supplied to interventionists invading Afghanistan, and ... (substituting "interventionists" for "bands");

Page AA 5, paragraph four, line one reads:...the questions raised. These questions cannot be swept aside by publishing all kinds of voluminous "reports" containing falsifications of the other side's policy. The issues regarding... (rewording and picking up paragraph five, line one);

Paragraph eight, line one begins:... If some people in Washington believe... (inserting "people");

Same paragraph, line three reads:...beliefs are groundless. It is time for the United States to give up... (rewording);

Last paragraph, line three reads:... cessation on earth. The potential (vozmozhnost) for resolving these... (supplying vernacular).

SENATE HEARINGS PROVE U.S. NOT SERIOUS ABOUT TALKS

LD271725 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 27 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The Reagan administration does not intend to take a constructive and serious stand at the upcoming Soviet-American talks in Geneva and will continue staking on an accelerated buildup of its nuclear potential and militarisation of outer space. This follows from the statements made at the hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by Paul Nitze, a consultant to the President and to the U.S. secretary of state on talks on arms cuts, and the leaders of the American delegation Max Kampelman, John Tower and Maynard Glitman.

They talked at length about the wish of the USA to ensure a "fair settlement." But as soon as things came to concrete problems, it turned out that these long words were not confirmed by Washington's real interest in ensuring meaningful progress at the talks with the Soviet Union. Thus each of the four representatives of the administration confirmed that the White House did not intend to discuss questions in connection with Reagan's star wars program which is known to lead to spreading the arms race to outer space. In doing so, Paul Nitze, adviser to the U.S. secretary of state for the Geneva talks, even described as "nonsensical" the deep concern expressed world-wide over the militarisation of outer space. The representatives of the White House were no less zealous in upholding the program from building MX intercontinental first strike ballistic missiles.

In reiterating President Reagan's "arguments," they were trying to claim that if the Congress voted against the "MX", the upcoming talks would be doomed almost to failure.

Such claims met with open skepticism of some legislators, who attended the hearings. Senator Paul Sarbanes (Democrat, Maryland) frankly said that the implementation of the Star Wars program would lead to an escalation of the arms race. The same view was expressed by Senator John Kerry (Democrat, Massachussets). Carol Rosin, president of the Institute for Security and Cooperation in Outer Space, described as "disappointing" the statements in the Senate commission by the heads of the American delegation. Speaking in a TASS interview, she pointed out that by their pronouncements they had reaffirmed the administration's intentions to hold talks with the USSR from the positions of strength. The White House claims that the creation of a large scale ABM system with outer space based elements is "a justified approach" to arms control. Yet the implementation of these plans will bring the world closer to a nuclear catastrophe. The only right way is peaceful cooperation in outer space, she stressed.

ABRAHAMSON REAFFIRMS U.S. SPACE RESEARCH PLANS

LD280853 Moscow TASS in English 0746 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 28 TASS -- The Reagan administration does not display readiness to constructively discuss at the coming Soviet-American negotiations problems of preventing militarisation of outer space. That was reaffirmed in no uncertain terms by Lieutenant-General of the U.S. Air Force James Abrahamson, director of the programme for realisation of the so-called "strategic defence initiative".

Speaking at the hearings at the House Armed Services Committee, he noted that the United States at the negotiations "will consider any proposal" of the Soviet Union, but he added that the United States favours continuation of the programme of research within the framework of strategic defence initiative.

That "initiative" is aimed at forming a huge anti-missile defence system with space-based elements, which is bound to ensure to the United States a potential for hitting the first nuclear strike. The administration requests for research within the framework of that programme 3,700 million dollars in 1986 fiscal year -- almost three times as much as the amount allocated in the current fiscal year.

U.S. DRIVE FOR SPACE SUPERIORITY CONDEMNED

LD261825 Moscow TASS in English 1758 GMT 26 Feb 85

["IZVESTIYA on U.S. Drive for Military Superiority" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- At a time when the USSR was embarking on a program for the peaceful exploration of outer space, the United States as early as 1957 began to develop an anti-missile defense system, NIKA-X, political commentator Vikentiy Matveyev said in the newspaper IZVESTIYA today.

But the U.S. striving to spread the arms race to outer space ran up against growing obstacles: A keen struggle was unfolding on a board international scale for preventing the militarization of outer space. Marching in its vanguard was the Soviet Union as the pioneer of the peaceful exploration of outer space. On March 15, 1958, the Soviet Government proposed the formation of a U.N. body for international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space.

The stubborn efforts led in 1967 to the conclusion of the treaty on principles governing the activities of states in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies.

"Outer space figures in the 1972 Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missiles defense systems. The sides undertook not to develop, test, or deploy ABM systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based, or mobile land-based," Matveyev went on. "The treaty's signing was a triumph of reason, of realism in an issue that has exceptional significance to progress with lessening the war threat and limiting and reducing the most lethal arms."

"Having uncaringly brushed aside everything that before the 1981 takeover of the incumbent American Administration was carefully weighed and considered also at the highest level in the United States, containing and in a certain measure neutralizing the pressure of 'star wars' strategists in Washington now they have decided to give the green light to the 'space fever'," the commentator said.

The new program has the same old aim of achieving military superiority over the USSR. "As they fail to do that on the ground, on the seas and oceans, and in the air, they want to crash into outer space with their deadly weapons," Matveyev said. "But the pursuit of superiority in outer space is a mirage, a ghost for the initiators of this race in just the same way as all the previous actions of this sort have been. The difference is only that such a race will involve the spending, squandering of even bigger funds and resources."

Even without the "star wars" program, the arms buildup programs already in motion have strained the federal finances of the United States, which has found expression in the record budget deficits. And the "star wars" program of the White House will cost, according to American expert estimates, a staggering 500 billion to one trillion dollars.

The sum, however, does not put the captains of the aerospace business out of countenance. On the contrary, it whets their appetite. But the Lockheeds, Hugheses and Grummans are not yet the whole of America, not even the whole of its upper crust. Many of its members, who are not connected with the lethal arms conveyer, have things to ponder in the light of the rush of the moguls of the aerospace business and the strategic calculations of their friends and colleagues who forget that realities have nothing to do with the Hollywood fantasies of "star wars", Matveyev said in conclusion.

ILO USED AS INSTRUMENT OF 'CONFRONTATION'

LD271449 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Geneva February 27 TASS -- Addressing a press conference here, Leonid Kostin, representative of the Soviet Government at the ILO Administrative Council, has described as unsatisfactory the situation, which shaped at the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The organisation is now going through a serious crisis, he pointed out, the essence of this crisis is that ILO disregards questions concerning the vital interests of the working people, in the first place the right to life and the right to work. At the same time the organisation is used for interference in the home affairs of the socialist and a number of other countries. This runs counter to the generally recognised principles and laws of international cooperation, which ILO, being a component part of the U.N. system, is called upon to implement. One cannot put up with such a situation.

Today the threat of a nuclear catastrophe is hanging over mankind. The race of lethal weapons, which the United States Administration is out to spread to outer space, is assuming an unprecedented scale. Under these conditions the task of all international organisations, the more so those which claim to be universal, is to counter resolutely attempts of this kind. Yet ILO is, unfortunately, used not as an instrument of international cooperation, but as a machinery of confrontation.

Touching upon the upcoming 40th anniversary since the victory over Hitler fascism, the representative of the Soviet Government to the ILO Administrative Council pointed out that the four decades without world war are evidence of mankind's ability to curb militarism, prevent the threat of a new war and contain the arms race. This is the aim of the large-scale foreign policy initiative of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist states. The international organisations, in the first place, those belonging to the U.N. system, can make their contribution to this important cause. Unfortunately, certain circles are out to use ILO counter to these aims.

In conclusion L. Kostin stressed that the Soviet Union declares for enhancing the effectiveness of ILO, so that it should in the first place resolve questions vital to the working people of the whole world and actively contribute to strengthening peace and to ensuring disarmament.

IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS SESSION REPORTED

PM261036 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Act of Goodwill"]

[Text] Vienna, 22 February -- The lastest session of the Board of Governors of the IAEA has ended here. Taking part in its work were representatives of all the board's members, including the USSR.

The session examined a wide range of questions connected with the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and with the further consolidation of the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. A central point on the agenda was the approval of the agreement between the USSR and the IAEA on placing part of peaceful nuclear activity in the Soviet Union under the agency's control. Having approved the agreement, the board unanimously noted that it is of great importance for the consolidation of the treaty on the unproliferation of nculear weapons and for the enhancement of the prestige of the IAEA system of guarantees.

It was emphasized that the agreement will help to enlist new states accede to the nuclear weapons nonproliferation treaty.

The present agreement wiill make it possible to make IAEA control more universal and will enable the agency's inspectors to acquire experience in inspections of new types of installations. It is graphic evidence of the USSR's positive attitude toward international control that should really serve arms limitation and disarmament.

The session also approved the IAEA program for technical aid and cooperation for 1986 and approved the report on the results of recent sessions of the IAEA Committee for Guaranteed Deliveries of Nuclear Materials, Equipment, and Technology. Those taking part in the session approved the code of provisions for ensuring the safekeeping of atomic power stations' radioactive waste and examined questions of the agency's current activity.

U.S.-USSR MIDDLE EAST TALKS COOPERATION NOTED

LD242352 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Feb 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] This week, representatives of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the U.S. State Department met in Vienna. A 2-day exchange of opinions took place on the situation in the Near East and how to attain a just settlement of the long drawn out conflict. Foreign commentators point out that this was the sides' first attempt to find a common approach to the problem since the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the Near East was signed in October 1977, a statement which, incidentally, envisaged convening an international conference.

According to the British GUARDIAN newspaper, this was the first time in more than 7 years that the United States had publicly expressed readiness to renew dialogue with the USSR on the Near East problem and had come close to acknowledging that the participation of the Soviet Union is needed to resolve it.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND BRUSSELS PEACE MEETING

LD280032 Moscow TASS in English 0003 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- A Soviet delegation led by Stepan Shalayev, a member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Central Council of the Soviet Trade Union's left for Brussels today to attend an international forum for peace and security in Europe. The delegation includes representatives of the trade unions, the Soviet Women's Committee, the Committee for European Security and Cooperation, and also scientists, jouranlists and representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church.

"We are going to that international forum with a clear platform on all the major issues of European and world politics", Stepan Shalayev told a TASS correspondent. The Soviet Union's position was explicitly stated in the election speech of the leader of our party and state, Konstantin Chernenko. It was enthusiastically supported by all the Soviet people, which is evidenced by the results of the recent elections to the supreme soviets of the union republics and to the local bodies of government.

We give the affirmative answer to the question if the threat of nuclear war can be removed, trust in international relations built up and the arms race ended."

"Disputable issues between capitalism and socialism in the nuclear age must be resolved only on the ways of peaceful coexistence", Stepan Shalayev continued. "Any other approach would mean disregard for the lessons of the Second World War. Our forum is meeting in a complex international situation. One of its main causes is the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles which began in some West European countries in November 1983. Another source of our worry is the plans to militarise space. Unless they are blocked, all the hopes for the reduction and complete elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe and all over the world will prove futile.

An important but yet initial step towards mutually acceptable decisions was taken in Geneva, where Andrey Gromyko and George Shultz reached accord on new Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons. It is our conviction that the problem of preventing the militarisation of space must be resolved on the basis of mutual agreement and in close interrelationship with the problems of reducing both strategic and medium-range nuclear weapons".

However, the leader of the Soviet delegation continued, the reduction of nuclear weapons should not be viewed as justification for the conventional arms race. "A substantial role is to be played here by talks on the limitation of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. The Europeans have every right to expect position results also from the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The Europeans will undoubtedly feel more secure if all the nuclear powers follow the example of the USSR and assume the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. We fully support also the movement of the European public for the establishment of nuclear and chemical weapon-free zones."

U.S. OPPOSITION TO DRA IMPEDES UN COUNCIL SESSION

LD272303 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 27 TASS -- An organizing session of the governing council of the U.N. Development Program has been held at the U.N. Headquarters. Its participants exhausted the time limit, but failed to settle the main problem for which they gathered -- to approve the agenda of the regular 32nd session of the council due to be held next June.

The adoption of the draft agenda of the session was disrupted by the U.S. delegation which did not like the fact the list of countries the assistance to which was to be discussed in June included the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Violating all the norms of diplomatic talks, American representatives stated unceremoniously that they would not permit so much as the discussion of the request of Afghanistan and demanded that that country should be crossed out from the list. The provocative position of Washington was rejected by participants in the session. The discussion of the agenda of the session will be continued later.

It is pointed out in the U.N. circles that the U.S. actions are more than just an attempt to go on with the unseemly fuss about the "Afghan question" invented by the U.S. itself. It is even more so since the UNDP is the body whose tasks is, in accordance with its own procedures, to render technical assistance to developing countries irrespective of political considerations. Contrary to all the procedures and traditions of the UNDP, the United States tried to arrogate itself for the future some right" to decide which of the developing countries can and which cannot receive technical assistance to its development within the framework of U.N. organizations. This also runs counter to the basic resolutions of the UNDP and U.N. General Assembly.

The American representative cynically tried to justify this so-called "right" by mentioning the sum of money which, as it known, the U.S. contributes to the UNDP and which gets back to the safes of U.S. monopolies together with profits in the form of payments for the orders fulfilled by them for the UNDP.

It is noteworthy that the position assumed at the session by the Pakistani delegation was obviously at variance with the stand of developing countries, which could not but remind all the participants in the session of the undeclared war against Afghanistan waged from the territory of that country on American dollars.

Sober-minded representatives of developing countries who make up the majority of them realize that U.S. intentions are actually an economic blackmail of all the young countries. They are aimed against any of these countries in case of latter venture to reject Washington's diktat and pursue an independent policy.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL STATEMENT SUPPORTS NICARAGUA

LD261918 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Helsinki February 26 TASS -- The World Peace Council issued today (Helsinki, 26 February, 1985) the following press statement:

In view of the offensive and increasingly aggressive statements and actions of the U.S. Government and its plans for armed intervention against Nicaragua, the World Peace Council calls on all national committees, international democratic organizations and international public opinion to redouble solidarity actions with the people of Nicaragua.

The presence of thousands of U.S. soldiers participating in provocative maneuvers in Honduras, very close to Nicaragua born borders [as received], the battle ship Iowa which is anchored in Puerto Limon, Costa Rica and equipped with nuclear weapons, as was denounced by the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly, constitute further proof of the stepped-up aggression and possible armed intervention against Nicaragua.

President Reagan's statement calling for the overthrow of the Sandinist government, democratically elected by the Nicaraguan people for the first time in the country's history, as well as the pressures on the U.S. Congress to renew aid to the counter-revolutionaries and mercenaries who constantly attack Nicaragua, all testify to the U.S. Administration's criminal intention toward Central America, and the Caribbean Latin American public opinion is indignant at Mr. Reagan's disrespectful comparison of the counter-revolutionary bands with the liberator Simon Bolivar, which as well as showing his incredible historical and political ignorance is an insult to the memory of one of the greatest sons of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The U.S. intensification of all types of aggression against Nicaragua could provoke unforseeable consequences for peace in the region and the world. To denounce these aggressions against Nicaragua is to fight for peace at a time when humanity is threatened with extinction as a result of the insane arms race, the dangers of a nuclear war and even plans which have been made public by Mr. Reagan of "star wars."

All our national committees and peace-loving men and women worldwide should be mobilized in order to carry out further actions of solidarity with Nicaragua. We should use every possible means to prevent an armed intervention against Nicaragua, which would not only bring sorrow to Nicaraguan people but also to those in the United States. To halt the adventurous plans of the Reagan administration against Central America and the Caribbean is to fight for peace.

CHERNENKO REPLIES TO U.S. WW II VETERANS' LETTER

LD272023 Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- A group of American veterans of World War II sent a letter to Konstantin U. Chernenko which says among other things the following: "We are veterans of World War II. We live at Michigan veterans' facility. We gladly fought and risked our lives on behalf of our country. None would call us cowards. Yet we write of peace. We have no doubts about most serious consequences of the nuclear war if it is unleashed. They will be terrible for all."

The American veterans believe that the main task today is to eliminate nuclear weapons and express the hope of all people that the USSR and the USA will reach an agreement towards this end.

The following is the text of Konstantin U. Chernenko's reply to the letter of American World War II veterans:

"Esteemed American veterans of World War II,

Your letter will not leave anyone indifferent who is conscious of the magnitude of the danger that all humankind faces today, and of the kind of catastrophe to which a nuclear war, should it happen, would inevitably lead. In the Soviet Union the feelings that you express will touch every person for there is not a single family in our country that has not been affected by the Second World War.

This is the reason why in our country so much respect, love and care have been accorded to the veterans of that war which was the bloodiest in the history of mankind, to the men to whom we owe our life and freedom. We hold the same respect for the participants of the antifascist struggle for other countries, including the U.S. veterans of World War II.

Today, on the eve of the fortieth anniversary of the victory over fascism, we remember not only those who perished and the colossal price that humankind had to pay for the Nzai maniacs' attempts to achieve world supremacy. The memories of the war, in which almost 50 million gave their lives, are also a solemn warning, a lesson for the future.

How humanely simple and right to the point if was for you to put it in your letter: 'Descendants of the soldiers who met and embraced at the Elbe River can no longer be enemies'. I completely share your view. I will say even more: This happens to be our debt to those who struggled hand-in-hand against the forces of evil and tyranny.

The years of war have borne the proof of the following: Although there exist different social and economic systems in the USSR and the USA, in their hour of trial they are able to unite against the common enemy, in the name of lasting peace. The memory brings back the days in February 1945 when the leaders of the three powers who were members of the anti-Hitler coalition -- the USSR, the USA and Great Britain -- convened in Yalta and made important decisions which in many ways shaped the face of the post war world. Nowadays, unfortunately, some people in the West are making attempts at rewriting history and at distorting the true sense of the obligations assumed by the Allied Powers.

I am confident, however, that no one will succeed in causing people to forget one of the main lessons of the past war, which is that the USSR and the USA provided then a joint rebuff to those who ventured to attain domination over the world. The experience of World War II makes a case for the strong need to join efforts in order to remove the war danger hovering over the people and to stop the madness of the arms race.

Soviet-American cooperation is of vital importance today when it comes to a question of whether life is to be or not to be on earth. On more than one occasion I have said and written that much in the world depends on what shape the relations between the USSR and USA will take. And no disagreements, as you justly write, should become an obstacle to dialogue.

The Soviet Union is in favour of working together with the United States on issues of war and peace in the cause of delivering humankind from the nuclear menace. In our view the upcoming new negotiations, whose objective is to prevent the arms race in space and terminate it on earth, and to limit and reduce nuclear weapons, and strengthen the strategic stability, provide an opportunity for taking a practical step on the road to peaceful and secure future. However not everything in this respect depends on the Soviet Union and its goodwill. A similar willingness to reach an agreement is necessary on the other side too.

The forty years that have elapsed since the war have proven irrefutably that relying on force and on gaining military superiority leads to an aggravation of tensions and to hostility. Mountains of weapons have enhanced no one's security, including that of the U.S. There is only one way out of the current situation -- to eliminate nuclear weapons once and for all. And this road to achieving the basic goal which all of us must strive for lies in good faith and realistic negotiations. We are deeply convinced that peace can and must turn out to be stronger than war."

PRAVDA CRITICIZES SHULTZ' SPEECH ON NICARAGUA

PM281141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[Editorial Article: "Philosophy of Imperialist Banditry"]

[Text] The world public is watching with well-grounded worry the actions taken by the U.S. Administration in its bid to get a free hand for direct acts of aggression, including armed aggression, against the peoples standing up for their right to decide their historical destinies themselves.

In their latest statements White House spokesmen and other officials have been attacking particularly harshly the states and peoples following free, independent roads of development. An attempt is being made to put all this activity on a "theoretical basis." The U.S. Administration's aggressive aims were presented especially frankly in a speech delivered by Secretary of State George Shultz in San Francisco.

That speech was pervaded from beginning to end with hatred for the socialist countries, for all the peoples who are not going to bow to the diktat of U.S. imperialism. With all that, Shultz spared no effort to present the U.S. Administration as "a champion of freedom and human rights". The attempt was even made to picture the CIA's Somozist stooges, dushmans in Afghanistan, Pol Pot killers and other counterrevolutionary rabble as -- followers of the cause of the 18th century American revolution!

To all appearances, he needed all this to rationalize a "crusade" against the freedom-loving peoples, the obsession with which has never left certain forces in the USA. Shultz now and then lashed out at "national-liberation wars" -- putting these words in quotation marks -- and stated that they were being waged supposedly "for the sake of so called 'socialist internationalism'."

That downpour of slander over different countries and peoples, who counter the imperial ambitions of the U.S. ruling circles with their policies, seemed to be necessary to make people believe that the world situation is getting ripe for the "forces of democracy," as he calls the stranglers of freedom, to launch a decisive onslaught upon the genuine forces of freedom on a worldwide scale.

Shultz declared that the United States has a "moral duty" to lead that onslaught. "America," he proclaimed, "must be the leader of the free world. No one else can take our place.... If we seek to shirk leadership we will create a vacuum our opponents could fill. Our national security will suffer, our global interests and the struggle for democracy throughout the world will suffer." Here is one more graphic example of how the concept of "U.S. national security" is used in practice to justify ill intentions against the peoples who want to become masters in their home.

In what direction would Washington like to "turn" the destinies of the peoples? This can be seen especially clearly in Washington's intentions toward Nicaragua.

Washington officials talk about that country, the people of which cast off the yoke of blood-stained dictatorship imposed by the force of U.S. arms, with undisguised malice, never concealing the causes for it. Washington politicians fear the fact that the people of that country are making rapid progress in consolidating their freedom and independence. The recent elections in Nicaragua, the first free elections in its history, demonstrated that most of the Nicaraguans firmly support the Sandinist government and its course, which meets the basic aspirations of the Nicaraguan working people."

The U.S. ruling circles stop at nothing in their efforts to extinguish that torch of freedom. The CIA and the Pentagon, having rallied the remnants of the Somozist followers under the black banner of counterrevolution, have turned them into a mercenary army which is drowning in blood those parts of Nicaragua which they manage to infiltrate.

The Reagan administration, the Nicaraguan Government points out, is directly responsible for the death of more than 8,000 Nicaraguans and also for the huge damage done to the economy of the country in the course of the war unleashed by the U.S. Administration. All this is called "actions for freedom" in the language of Washington politicians!

Neighboring Honduras, crowded with U.S. troops, has been turned into a staging area for armed raids into the freedom-loving country. THE WASHINGTON POST reported the other day that the number of U.S. troops in Honduras is close to 5,000 as virtually incessant military maneuvres, which have already cost the United States at least $100 million, continue close to the Nicaraguan borders. According to some estimates, the U.S. Administration had spent $400 million on aggression against Nicaragua by August 1984."

But the Sandinist revolution is firmly standing its ground. The courageous people of Nicaragua and their Army are repulsing the incessant raids of the CIA mercenaries and are standing up for the honor and freedom of their homeland.

Washington is outraged. While up to now the aggression against Nicaragua has been justified by an attempt to "block" mythical arms supplies to Salvadoran guerrillas, now this camouflage is being cast aside as unnecessary. Direct armed intervention of the United States to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government is being put on the agenda. They demand of that country no more and no less than "fundamental changes in its conduct" and in the character of its domestic and foreign policy.

As everyone knows, Washington politicians are "twisting the arms" of their West European allies, making them deploy in their countries Pershing and cruise missiles. Now the administration has launched such an "operation" against its own Congress. If the Congress does not set aside additional funds to finance the gangs of Nicaraguan "contras", the White House will prepare for other, even more dangerous forms of intervention in that country's affairs.

The United States, Shultz stated, is "indifferent" as to the way by which the change it wants in Nicaragua would be achieved -- whether through the "evolution" of the present government "or as a result of the fall of the Sandinist regime." He cited as an example the U.S. intervention in Grenada, which was carried out in order to "save Grenada." At the same time Shultz announced meaningfully that the "charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States reiterate the inalienable right to individual and collective self-defense against aggression." This is the limit: The striving of the peoples of Nicaragua and other countries for peaceful and democratic life is labeled "aggression" while an act of armed aggression prepared by the White House is proposed to be considered "lawful" and, moreover, to cover it with the blue flag of the United Nations!

Quite recently Washington claimed that it stood for the peaceful settlement of Central American problems and even supported the "peace act" prepared by the Contadora Group. Even that mask has now been cast off. The true meaning of the course Washington is now planning is to frustrate by all means a political settlement in the region and to unleash a gory war against the people of Nicaragua.

But the White House's ambitions are not limited to Central America. The secretary of state has announced the 'moral right' of the United States to interfere in the internal affairs of socialist countries. He tries to encourage renegades in those countries and even promises them help from Western special services, stating that this "material assistance" could supposedly "be a legitimate form of collective self-defense (!)"

But it is in vain that Washington believes its attempt at intervention in the internal affairs of socialist countries can have even a slight chance of success. The peoples of the socialist community will not allow anyone to encroach upon their great achievements. Rallied closely together, they are unflaggingly determined to repulse any attempts on their social system by imperialism. They are likewise adamant in their intention to stand up for the cause of world peace and international security.

Shultz says that the United States will never recognize the artificial division of Europe, in his words, into "free" and "non-free". What does this amount to if not a call for breaking the cornerstones of the foundation of postwar European development?

The true meaning of the platform presented by the secretary of state will become even clearer if we mention that its author characterized as especially in need of U.S. support such "friendly frontline states" as Honduras, Pakistan, and Thailand.

It is clear to everyone what role has been assigned to Honduras in the U.S. military plans. But on what "frontline" does Washington intend to put Pakistan, which is already waging an undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan? Who else is a target?

These are the "moral principles" proclaimed the U.S. secretary of state. The true meaning of these "principles" is international banditry, state terrorism, and subversive activity against other states and peoples.

The San Francisco speech demonstrated anew that Washington obviously overestimates the U.S. ability to suppress states and peoples' liberation movements determined to follow the road of genuine freedom.

Washington apparently believes that the United States is a law unto itself and that the norms of international law do not apply to it. Practice has demonstrated on more than one occasion what such a reckless policy leads to. Suffice it to recall the lessons of the World War II, Vietnam, Lebanon, and other objective lessons as well.

The peoples of the world will be able to give a proper rebuff to the imperialist ambitions of the claimants to world dominance.

REAGAN CITED ON 'STAR WARS,' NICARAGUA

PM251621 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS correspondent report: "R. Reagan's Speech"]

[Text] Washington, 22 Feb -- President R. Reagan has confirmed the U.S. intention to forge on with the development and implementation of plans to militarize space, fraught with a new mortal threat to mankind.

Addressing a news conference in the White House, he made it plainly understood that Washington is thinking by no means of "research" but of specific plans for deploying and using space weapons. "I have frequently stated that if, as a result of our research, it emerges that there is an opportunity for creating such weapons...in that case I will be ready...to discuss the deployment and use of such weapons." Reagan made it clear just as frankly that the United States does not intend to discuss these questions in a constructive spirit during the Soviet-U.S. talks which begin in Geneva on 12 March and which, according to the agreement that was reached, should encompass the whole complex of problems connected with nuclear and space armaments. It is clear from his statements that the United States would like to separate or totally remove space armaments from the context of the talks.

The President's stance, announced only a little over 2 weeks before the start of the Geneva talks, cannot fail to cause bewilderment. After all, Washington knows well that only the scrupulous observance of the accord which has been reached can make the talks promising. Washington's persistent refusal to renounce the chase for the specter of military superiority through space militarization is alarming all peoples of the world.

Reagan announced "a decision within a few months" regarding the Soviet-U.S. SALT II treaty, which as is well known, the United States has refused to ratify, while constantly alleging that it is observing its main provisions. Reagan has made it clear that the "forthcoming decision" will mean the United States' total disregard of SALT II. This step would be fully in keeping with the administration's course toward building up ever new types of offensive armaments.

Reagan's statements during the news conference confirm that Washington is still in the grips of the unrealizable dream of disrupting the existing strategic parity with the aid of the frenzied buildup of offensive weapons alongside the pushing through of "defensive" space armaments within the framework of stepping up of the first-strike potential.

During the news conference Reagan confirmed the U.S. intention to make more active its interference in the affairs of other countries with the aid of the export of counterrevolution. He essentially gave an affirmative answer to a direct question: Is it the aim of the administration's policy to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government? The President demanded that Congress, in which there is considerable opposition to the policy of U.S. state terrorism with regard to Nicaragua and other countries, earmark the additional funds the administration is requesting for the CIA's "secret" war in Central America. THE NEW YORK TIMES writes directly in this connection: "There is no longer any doubt that Nicaragua sticks in Reagan's craw and that he is seeking to remove its government. His speeches on this subject may be expected to contain an increasing number of exaggerations, misinformation, and demagoguery.... If Congress approves the allocation of the funds the administration is requesting (to support the "contras" -- TASS note), then that would mean that Reagan had succeeded in persuading it to declare war on a government that is lawful and recognized in the Western Hemisphere and throughout the world. If Reagan considers that to be 'morally justified,' the majority of Americans do not agree."

NEW ZEALAND'S LANGE CITED ON U.S. MILITARY TIES

LD280952 Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 28 TASS -- New Zealand's Prime Minister David Lange has again turned down Washington's attempts to make his government lift the ban on entries into the country's territorial waters and ports of combatant ships with nuclear weapons aboard or with nuclear power units.

Speaking in Los Angeles, David Lange reaffirmed that New Zealand "does not want to have nuclear weapons on its territory or in its ports". Meanwhile, he noted that his country intends, as before, to remain a U.S. ally within the ANZUS bloc.

The prime minister said that in reply to his government's decision the U.S. Administration took a number of measures which signify "a sharp reduction in cooperation with New Zealand" in the military sphere. It seems that the United States deliberately seeks to curtail its long-term relations with our country in that sphere hoping that a new government will be formed in New Zealand which will allow American nuclear weapons into its territory, said David Lange.

U.S. NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL OF ALLIES VIEWED

PM271533 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Feb 85 Second Edition p 3

["Military-Political Review" by international observer V. Pustov: "Nuclear Blackmail Is Meeting With Rebuff"]

[Text] Initially even ubiquitous Western commentators could not immediately work out what had really happened: Was it a tempest in a teacup or something far more serious? Here is what happened. The Labor government of New Zealand -- a U.S. ally in ANZUS -- banned the entry of the U.S. destroyer Buchanan to the country's ports because the Pentagon had refused to state that it was not carrying nuclear weapons. What would seem to be extraordinary in that? Surely this is not the first time a transatlantic visitor has been turned back at the gates? After all, scandals in the "noble clan" patronized by America long ceased to be anything extraordinary.

That is indeed so, but... This time the U.S. Administration's reaction was particularly stormy. True, even before it had been unrelenting in its drastic measures against the insubordinate. But now it is a small country without great military significance (its population is 3.2 million and its Armed Forces number 12,700 men) situated in a region frequently termed the "edge" of the world that has proved to be insubordinate. A country which, as THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR put it, "threatens no one, just as no one threatens it."

Now it turns out that it is being threatened. Its chief ally is applying sanctions in the military and economic cooperation spheres. There was a sinister ring to the words of U.S. State Department spokesman Kalb: "We will not regard New Zealand as an enemy. However, that does not mean it will not have to pay a price."

When talk turned to the motives and aims of the unimaginable din Washington raised, it became clear exactly what was perturbing it so and exactly what it had decided to terminate. THE NEW YORK TIMES cited an admission made with frank cynicism by a high-ranking U.S. official: "Unless we succeed in controlling our allies with regard to the question of visits by our ships and the deployment of nuclear weapons, they will take off one after the other." U.S. allies have been unambiguously told that New Zealand's independent actions should not be a precedent for them and that they should take steps to curb the nuclear disarmament movement that is also growing in their countries.

As we can see, the Washington administration has a neurotic fear of the dissemination of antinuclear and, at the same time, anti-U.S. sentiments. That is understandable. This movement, as the people' natural response to global U.S. nuclear adventurism, is assuming truly worldwide scope, penetrating to places where it was formerly almost unnoticed. In tiny New Zealand again, the people responded enthusiastically to the decision to bar U.S. warships. The newspaper THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH PRESS proudly notes that this day will go down in the country's history as "the day when the lamb refused to let itself be eaten by the lion."

Wellington's firm stand was welcomed with approval by the Pacific and Indian Ocean zone's public and was interpreted as an example worthy of emulation. The outburst of arrogant anger across the ocean did not prevent the government of another ANZUS member, Australia, from heeding the voice of its people, angered by the secret deal between the former government and the U.S. Administration that had been made public. Australian Prime Minister R. Hawke revoked the undertaking his predecessor made to make airfields available to U.S. aircraft in order to observe tests of sophisticated first-strike nuclear weapons -- MX ICBM's.

"New Zealand," THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR noted in this connection, "is not that important strategically, but Australia's importance is great..." This time Washington's behavior, however, has been unusually restrained. Keeping virtually silent and putting a brave face on things, it swallowed the bitter Australian pill, evidently believing it undesirable to put itself in the ridiculous position of a sergeant-major whose entire company is out of step.

There is one more noteworthy fact. R. Hawke has refused to support Washington's plans to militarize space, including the creation of a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements. He stated that Australia will not allow U.S. radio intercept posts on its territory to be used to implement the "star wars" program.

The opposition of New Zealand and Australia to the sinister global nuclear scenario that Washington is playing out -- is perfectly natural. From time to time other scandalous facts connected with this scenario come to light. For instance, some details were recently made known of secret plans to deploy U.S. nuclear weapons in countries and on territories washed by three oceans -- in the Philippines, on Diego Garcia Island, in Spain, in the Azores (Portugal), Iceland, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and Canada. In the event of a so-called "crisis situation," it is planned, without the knowledge of the local authorities, to stockpile nuclear depth charges in those countries and use local airfields to base Orion P-3C aircraft carrying these bombs. The yield of each bomb is equal to approximately half the yield of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

If we are to believe ABC-TV, all this was successfully concealed for 10 years. Nonetheless, the secret was revealed. Angry debates have been launched in those countries and Washington has been embarrassed. Both circumstances have a simple explanation: The U.S. Administration has again been caught concealing extraordinarily dangerous plans from its allies which violate their sovereignty and jeopardize their security. The Spaniards, for instance, the majority of whom already resolutely oppose their country's membership in NATO, are totally reluctant to come to terms with this. F. Gonzalez, head of the Spanish Government, deemed it necessary to warn his unbridled transatlantic partner. "As long as I am head of government," he said, "no nuclear weapons will be deployed in Spain." In other words, there will be no nuclear weapons at the U.S. military bases in Torrejon de Ardoz, Moron, and Rota. Icelandic Prime Minister S. Hermansson denounced the nuclear plans.

The U.S. Administration's secret designs are not limited to nuclear depth charges. This revelation was followed by another; reports that filtered through to the press about portable nuclear munitions stockpiled, also in strict secrecy, at U.S. military bases in the FRG, Italy, and South Korea.

In the atmosphere of successive revelations of the United States' unseemly, to put it mildly, activity, Washington resolved to toughen its former "arm twisting" tactic already frequently used in relations with its allies -- a tactic which THE NEW YORK TIMES has delicately termed "a policy of neutralizing trends dangerous to the White House." The newspaper reports that it is planned to display the maximum toughness, seeking from the allies "the strict fulfillment of the commitments they have made to take part in nuclear operations and in the deployment of nuclear weapons."

"Trends dangerous to Washington" are discerned in the fact that even in the NATO bloc, far from all members are inclined to display loyal feelings toward their senior partner across the Atlantic. Many of them, (J. Steinbruker), director of the Brookings Institution foreign policy research program, notes, are having misgivings, believing that the Reagan administration is not aware of the danger contained in nuclear weapons. These allies are being subjected to special indoctrination.

Constant U.S. and NATO pressure is experienced by Belgium and the Netherlands, for instance. It is being demanded increasingly impudently of them that they agree to the deployment of 48 U.S. medium-range cruise missiles with nuclear warheads on the territory of each. Everything is being done to press Belgium to deploy the first consignment of 16 missiles before the start of the Soviet-U.S. talks on space and nuclear armaments in Geneva 12 March. Matters are not restricted to mere verbal pressure. According to the Belgian "movement to save the Florennes region," where it is planned to deploy the cruise missiles, components of these weapons have already secretly been brought in. Moreover, 700 U.S. servicemen are already preparing for their deployment at the local air base.

Just as impudent actions may be observed on the southern flank of the Washington-headed NATO bloc. Not so long ago the Italian public was agitated in connection with the leaking to the press of reports of the basing of U.S. atomic submarines armed with Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles with a range of 2,500 km on the island of Maddalena. The Italian press cited a Pentagon expert's statement to the effect that these submarines "can strike the territory of the Warsaw Pact countries and other zones." The latter means above all North Africa and the Persian Gulf zone. These missiles, the magazine PANORAMA stressed, "also instill fear in European NATO countries." The point is that, deployed on submarines, they are virtually uncontrollable. Americans, the magazine writes, "can use such a missile at any moment, without even warning NATO."

The forms and methods of Washington's actions in relations with its allies are most diverse: In some places if forges straight ahead, not disdaining threats, blackmail, or slander; in other places it acts through various loopholes, using guile and perfidy. The United States has particularly wanted to take up arms together with the NATO ruling clique against the peace-loving foreign policy of the Greek Government and its opposition to the Pentagon's nuclear and other plans in Greece itself and in Europe as a whole. Crude attacks were followed by an act of provocation. The NATO military college "played out" the scenario for a right-wing coup in Greece the day after the left-wing forces had won the elections. The undertaking, frankly hostile to Greece, generated all the more powerful an outburst of indignation in that people there have not forgotten the military-fascist putsch carried out in 1967 with U.S. and NATO support.

As for perfidy, guile, and duplicity, the Pentagon continues to resort to them in those cases where its sinister actions meet with particularly angry indignation and opposition. That is what has happened and is continuing to happen, for instance, with its plans to equip U.S. troops in Europe with the barbaric neutron weapon. Now it has become known that the U.S. General B. Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, has demanded that a new type of shell easily adaptable to a neutron shell be produced for the 155 mm howitzer. "The neutron core for the shell," he said, addressing Congress, "can be kept in the United States until the fits of colic induced in our allies by these weapons have passed." We can see from a report in THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE that it is now planned to turn to the production of these shells with a view to transferring them to West Europe.

And so, from far-off New Zealand to Puerto Rico, from Iceland to Africa, in all parts of the world, Washington's military adventurism is making itself felt. Everywhere it has been accompanied by gross U.S. interference in the affairs of other countries and everywhere it is endangering peace and international security. However, this sinister blackmail is meeting with a growing rebuff from the peoples.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-JAPANESE TIES MARKED

PM251525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Doctor of Historical Sciences I. Latyshev article: "Meeting Mutual Interests"]

[Text] The 60th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Basic Principles of Mutual Relations Between the USSR and Japan falls on 26 February. This was an important historical document. Soviet-Japanese relations were thereby placed on a treaty footing. As a result, the possibility emerged of strengthening bilateral ties and developing them in a spirt of peace and good-neighborliness. The two sides proclaimed the desire to live in peace and friendship and pledged to base their mutual relations on the principle of noninterference in internal affairs and to refrain from any hostile activity against one another.

Unfortunately, the realistic, positive trends in the policy of the Japanese statesmen of that time proved to be short-lived. In the two decades that followed the signing of the convention, Japan's ruling circles embarked on the path of militarisim, anti-Sovietism, and aggression, which could not but lead to an exacerbation of relations between our countries. Tokyo's bellicose, expansionist aspirations were expressed in the notorious "Anti-Comintern Pact" which Japan concluded with Hitler's Germany and which was spearheaded against the USSR, in numerous armed provocations by the Japanese military on the Soviet borders, in the preparation of the Japanese Kwangtung Army for the occupation of the Primorye and Siberia, and in other actions hostile to the Soviet Union that were undertaken during the same period, when the Soviet Armed Forces were engaged in heavy fighting against the Hitlerite hordes that had invaded our country's territory.

The lamentable result of the Japanese militarists' criminal adventures was the military defeat of Japan by the countries of the antifascist coalition in 1945.

It should be noted that the Soviet Union's entry into the war against militarist Japan, which predetermined its rapid unconditional surrender, was aimed at defeating Japanese militarism and liberating the peoples it had enslaved.

In the postwar period the legal starring point for the settling of Soviet-Japanese relations was the decisions of the Yalta conference of the leaders of the USSR, the United States, and Britain, as well as the Potsdam declaration, which the Soviet Union adhered to in August 1945, the United States, and Britain, as well as the Potsdam declaration, which the Soviet Union adhered to in August 1945. For a short time, these documents also guided the U.S. Government, which in 1951, along with certain other allied countries, signed the separate San Francisco peace treaty with Japan.

The profound changes in Japan's political life and public awareness which took place in the postwar period created favorable preconditions for the strengthening of the influence of supporters of Japanese-Soviet good-neighborliness in the country. The trip to Moscow by Japanese Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama in 1956, which ended with the signing of a joint Soviet-Japanese declaration on the normalization of relations between the two countries, was an event of great historical significance. The document, which heralded the two countries' transition to peaceful relations, played an important role in subsequent years in the cause of strengthening Soviet-Japanese state, political, economic, and other contacts.

The more Soviet-Japanese ties expanded in the sixties and seventies, the more obvious their benefits for the two countries' peoples became.

The fine fruit of mutually advantageous Soviet-Japanese cooperation in those years included the Soviet-Japanese trade treaty and the associated 5-year agreements on trade turnover and payments, as well as general agreements on the joint exploitation of the natural resources of Siberia and the Far East. Our peoples cultural, scientific, and sporting ties also assumed an unprecedented scale at that time. The symbol of the mutual desire of the Soviet Union and Japan to develop businesslike cooperation and good-neighborliness was the Soviet-Japanese Joint Statement signed in Moscow 10 October 1973, in which both sides acknowledged that "the strengthening of good-neighborly, friendly relations between the USSR and Japan on the basis of the principles of noninterference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, and equality not only accords with the common interests of the two countries' peoples, but is also a great contribution to the cause of peace and stabilization in the Far East and throughout the world." Later, in 1975-1978, it was proposed to the Japanese side that a treaty be concluded on good-neighborliness and cooperation, which was intended to be an important step toward the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries.

The development of Soviet-Japanese relations along an ascending line met, however, with increasing opposition from U.S. ruling circles. Seeking to perpetuate the presence of its own Armed Forces on Japanese territory, Washington imposed the military "security treaty" on Japan. Japan thus became the main military ally of the United States in the Far East. From the late seventies, under pressure from Washington, Japanese Government circles started actively supporting the U.S. course of renouncing the relaxation of tension and shipping up the arms race. There followed Tokyo's alignment with the so-called "sanctions" against the USSR. The Japanese Government gave active support to NATO's plans in connection with the siting of first-strike nuclear weapons in Western Europe near the borders of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. Within Japan, speeches involving unsubstantiated and illegal territorial claims on the USSR became more frequent.

Recently Japan has pursued an equally well defined course of stepping up the country's military preparations and extending the sphere of cooperation between Japan's "Self-Defence Forces" and the U.S. Armed Forces located on Japanese territory. At the American military base of Misawa in the northern part of Japan, everything is ready for the deployment of F-16 fighter-bombers capable of nuclear strikes against the Soviet Union's territory. The equipping of U.S. warships based at Yokosuka and other Japanese ports with cruise missiles is in full swing.

This is a deliberately pernicious course, and the need to reject it is becoming clear not only to the peace-loving Japanese public, but also to influential representatives of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Many Japanese parliamentarians took part in the fourth "roundtable" conference of representatives of the Soviet and Japanese public held in Moscow in October 1984. A positive approach to questions of the development of Soviet-Japanese relations can also be observed in Japan's business world. This is indicated by the resumption of the work of the Japanese-Soviet and Soviet-Japanese committees on economic cooperation. Certain influential Japanese bourgeois newspapers are also coming out in favor of a sensible, autonomous approach on Japan's part to relations with the Soviet Union. Those who today steer Japan's foreign policy course cannot fail to reckon with the clearly expressed opinion of the Japanese public.

Recent months have been marked by some reanimation of Soviet-Japanese contacts at state level. An important step toward the smoothing out and expansion of interstate relations between the two countries was the visit of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation to Japan, during which talks were held with state and public figures and representatives of Japan's political circles and business world.

While welcoming the reanimation of bilateral contacts, the Soviet side believes, however, that the substantial potential opportunities for the development of Soviet-Japanese relations are by no means being fully exploited. The USSR invariably advocated that these relations be friendly in nature and that they be deepened and widened. But this requires reciprocity. As yet, for instance, there has been no positive response from the Japanese side to the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at extending Soviet-Japanese dialogue. Yet there are many such initiatives. There is the Soviet Unions's proposal to conclude a treaty on good-neighborliness and cooperation and the Soviet appeal for our countries to work together, with the participation of other interested states or on a bilateral basis, to elaborate confidence-building measures for the Far East. The Soviet Unions's offers to guarantee, on a treaty basis, the nonuse of nuclear weapons against Japan on condition that it pledges to strictly and consistently ensure that its nuclear-free status also remains in force.

The Soviet Union continues to advocate a substantial expansion in mutually advantageous ties with Japan and its participation in the implementation of its own large-scale plans, including plans connected with the opening up of regions adjacent to the Baukal-Amur mainline railroad. The Soviet Union is equally definitely in favor of the further development of cultural ties with Japan.

The Soviet Union's unswerving line of good-neighborliness with Japan is clearly expressed in the address by K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to Japanese readers. As the text of the address points out, "Today, in the nuclear age, when we all live in an interconnected, fragile world, the need to establish really good-neighborly, full ties between the USSR and Japan makes itself felt persistently. This is necessary for the sake of the vital interests of the Soviet and Japanese peoples and for the sake of peace in Asia and throughout the world."

The history of Soviet-Japanese relations as they developed over the last 60 years is by no means uniform. An analysis of this history nonetheless shows that the long-term interests of the two countries' peoples are met not by confrontation, but by good-neighborly cooperation. Soviet people are convinced that their sincere, burning desire for peace and good-neighborliness will meet with due understanding and support in Japan.

ABRASIMOV APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

LD272139 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1732 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow, 27 Feb (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Petr Abrasimov USSR ambassador to Japan. Petr Abrasimov was born in 1912. He was formerly USSR ambassador to Poland, France and twice to the GDR. Prior to being appointed to the post of USSR ambassador to Japan, he was chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Tourism. Vladimir Pavlov, former ambassador to Japan, has been released from his duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

MPR'S BATMONH HITS U.S. APPROACH TO ARMS TALKS

LD281036 Moscow TASS in English 0841 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Ulaanbaatar February 28 TASS -- The peoples of the world are pinning hopes upon and expecting fruitful results from the forthcoming new Soviet-U.S. talks, called upon to prevent the militarisation of space and to halt the escalation of the arms race on earth, Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR], stated here.

It is these two questions that must be reviewed at the Geneva talks comprehensively and in their interrelationship.

The Soviet Union's honest and principled attitude to this most important problem of mankind as a whole was again reaffirmed graphically and concretely in the speech of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, at the election meeting of voters of the Kuybyshev electoral district of Moscow. That speech supplied an in-depth analysis of the main aspects and tasks of the domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU and the Soviet state. The strategic course of the party of Lenin, Jambyn Batmonh stressed, is ardently supported and approved by the Mongolian Communists, by all the working people of our country.

It is regrettable, the Mongolian leader continued, that the U.S. Administration approaches very flippantly and inconsistently the agreements reached and continues to pursue an aggressive militarist policy.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party dwelt in detail on the tasks of fulfilling the resolutions of the 18th MPRP Congress, the subsequent plenary meetings of the party Central Committee, the implementation of plan targets of the final year of the Seventh Five-Year Period (1981-1985) and that plan period as a whole. The party lays emphasis on raising the efficiency of production and improving the quality of work in the national economy. He stressed that all the activities of the party would continue to be directed at the consistent implementation of the party's general line and at the pursuit of the domestic and foreign policies formulated by the 18th Congress of the Mongolian Communists.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTANI 'ARMED PROVOCATIONS'

PM271158 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Stop Provocations"]

[Text] Kabul, 26 Feb -- The DRA Foreign Ministry has lodged a resolute protest with Pakistan in regard to Islamabad's new armed provocations against the Republic.

The statement, transmitted by the BAKHTAR agency, says that on 18 February Pakistani artillery shelled the Barikot District, Konar Province. As a result of the barbarous shelling, a child was seriously wounded and considerable material damage was caused to dwellings. On 23 February, a unit of Pakistan's regular forces, some 400 strong, violated the DRA state border and carried out a raid on the military garrison in Barikot. Five Afghan servicemen were killed and four seriously wounded. The DRA demands that these provocations immediately stop.

USSR, DRA SIGN ECONOMIC-TECHNICAL ACCORD

LD272243 Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- A bilateral agreement on economic and technical cooperation, signed here today, has become a new major step towards further developing and deepening economic links between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The document was signed from the Soviet side by Mikhail Sergeychik, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations, and from the Afghan side by Mohammad Sarwar Mangal, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee of Afghanistan. The signing ceremony was attended by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Ziya Nuriyev.

The agreement provides for the two countries' cooperation in building several new major economic projects in Afghanistan during the coming five years. The Soviet Union will deliver necessary equipment and machinery, dispatch experts and ensure the training of Afghan engineers and technicians.

An understanding was reached to make a feasibility study for building several hydro-electric power plants on the Kabul River, and to cooperate in the modernization of Afghan power-generating facilities. Soviet and Afghan organizations will continue their joint work in building motor-roads, modernizing international Kabul airport and developing Afghan agriculture. It is planned, in particular, to set up a new cotton-growing farm over an area of two thousand hectares.

In addition to that, the Soviet Union will help Afghanistan build in Kabul a 400,000 square metre housing estate, retool a textile and a spinning-and-weaving mill.

The new agreement reflects mutual advantages of Soviet-Afghan economic ties. In exchange for Soviet equipment deliveries for cooperation projects, Afghanistan will deliver to the USSR natural gas, citrus fruits and other export commodities.

GDR PROTESTS TO FRG OVER AIRSPACE VIOLATION

LD271844 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Berlin February 27 TASS -- The ADN news agency reports that a single-engine West German plane violated the air space of the G.D.R. in the area of the city of Aschersleben February 24.

In conjunction with that the permanent mission of the G.D.R. to the F.R.G. lodged a protest with the office of the federal chancellor of the F.R.G. Such air space violations, the ADN report says, run counter to the norms of international law. The permanent mission of G.D.R. to the F.R.G. expressed the hope that the competent agencies of West Germany will take effective steps to prevent such violations in the future.

JARUZELSKI RECEIVES CPSU SOCIAL SCIENCE RECTOR

PM261557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences headed by R.G. Yanovskiy, the academy's rector, has visited Poland for the purpose of exchanging work experience. It familiarized itself with the work of the PZPR Academy of Social Sciences, and also with the activity of the PZPR's Katowice and Krakow Voivodship committees. There was a thorough exchange of opinions and of experience of the training of party and state cadres.

An agreement was signed on cooperation between the two party educational institutions.

R.G. Yanovskiy was received by W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

BELORUSSIA'S SLYUNKOV PRAISES LINKS WITH POLAND

PM271042 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Article by N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, under the rubric "Interparty Ties: Collaboration and Performance": "In the Spirit of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] Minsk -- When you are at our motherland's western frontiers, the living pulse of Soviet-Polish cooperation can clearly be felt. There is a constant coming and going of traffic, carrying a variety of freight, across the border bridge of friendship connecting the banks of the Western Bug, whose waters wash the land of fraternal Poland and Soviet Belorussia. This is the working rhythm of broad economic ties and cooperation.

Our friendship has stood the test of time. It has deep roots and it has been tempered and strengthened in the crucible of class battles.

This friendship underwent its severest tests of maturity in the grim years of the last war. There is a place on Belorussian soil which is especially dear to Poles and Soviet people -- the settlement of Lenino. It was there, in October 1943, that the soldiers of the Polish Tadeusz Kosciuszko division fought their first battle against the Hitlerite aggressors together with Soviet troops. It was in that hard but victorious battle that the friendship between the Soviet and Polish peoples was sealed, sealed by the blood shed by them both.

The fraternity which matured on the battlefields of World War II was a reliable foundation for the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Poland. For 40 years now, the USSR's relations with People's Poland have been developing in accordance with the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and they graphically express our common fundamental interests and political goals. And throughout this period, life and the practice of socialist building have confirmed most convincingly the unfading significance of the unity of the CPSU and PZPR and of the friendship between the Soviet and Polish peoples.

Today, we have thousands of ties with our Polish brothers. I would like to note with satisfaction that Soviet Belorussia is actively involved in the Soviet Union's diverse ties with Poland. Belorussia supplies Poland with metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, agricultural machinery, trucks, chemical products, and refrigerators. And in our republic we are well acquainted with Polish-made electric engines, transformers, pumps, telephones, and other goods. Polish workers and specialists are involed in the construction of a number of national economic facilities in Belorussia.

The friendly ties which are being implemented by local party organa are an important avenue of multifaceted cooperation between the fraternal countries. All six Belorussian Communist Party obkoms are engaged in active contacts with PZPR voivodship committees. These ties provide an opportunity for broad exchange of experience of communist and socialist building.

Naturally, we attach great importance to strengthening the party committees' and organizations' contacts and to stepping up the exchange of experience of their work. During the 1982-1984 period, Poland was visited by 36 delegations of party workers. Approximately as many PZPR workers from nine voivodships visited our republic.

Party committees at various levels have hosted numerous meetings to hold a businesslike and detailed discussion of the most effective forms and methods of party organization and ideological and political work, experience of the solution of socioeconomic tasks, and measures to strengthen party leadership of the activity of state and public organizations.

Recently many new working people have come into the leadership of Polish party and state organs. As our Polish friends have repeatedly told us, these working people are striving to digest the rich experience of their Soviet colleagues. And our cadres are quick to respond to friends' wishes and requests. In 1984, the Minsk party obkom twice sent groups of party and soviet workers to Plock and Siedlec Voivodships to exchange the experience of conducting organizational and political measures and involving working people in social and political activity.

Last October, Minsk Oblast had vistors from Plock Voivodship. They asked about the party organization's methods of mobilizing communists and all working people in the oblast to fulfill the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. That same month, a delegation from Siedlec Voivodship was here to study the way we handle party organization and political education work and a delegation from people's power organs studied the activity of the soviets and their standing commissions and deputies' groups.

Grondno Oblast was visited by a delegation of ideological workers from Bialystok Voivodship. The Polish comrades visited the Grodno and Lida Belorussian Communist Party Gorkoms, a number of primary party organizations, and social and cultural facilities. I could cite other, similar examples. Basically, the point is that such frank and lively exchanges are reciprocal and undoubtedly beneficial.

Reciprocal visits by secretaries of primary party organizations have started recently for the purpose of expanding the beneficial process of exchange of experience. Last year, for example, Brest Party Obkom exchanged groups of school party organization secretaries with Biala Podlaska and Lublin PZPR voivodship committees.

There has been very useful cooperation between the editorial boards of oblast and voivodship newspapers which are printing articles by leading workers of our countries' party and state organs and publishing, on a reciprocal basis, collections of items and reports on very important questions relating to social, political, economic, and cultural life in oblasts and voivodships. The editorial board of the Brest Oblast paper ZARYA is organizing a scientific and practical conference, entitled "Forms and Methods of Propaganda of Party Decisions in the Press," in conjunction with journalists on newspapers in neighboring voivodships.

There is a fine tradition of holding joint mass political functions and young people's and veterans' meetings in the Brest and Grodno border oblasts. There have large and successful Soviet-Polish friendship rallies associated with the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Belorussia from the Hitlerite aggressors and the 40th anniversary of Poland's rebirth.

I would like to emphasize the significance of multifaceted work on further broadening and deepening cultural ties, which mutually enrich our peoples and help to educate working people in the spirit of socialist internationalism. This is served by translations of works by Polish writers into Belorussian, and of works by Belorussian writers into Polish, and by the ever increasing exchanges of concerts by the best amateur art collectives. The sixth competition for singers of Polish songs, which attracted more than 800 participants, ended recently in Vitebsk Oblast. Belorussian literary festivals have been held in a number of Polish voivodships.

An important role in strengthening and developing fruitful contacts between the public in Belorussian SSR oblasts and Polish voivodships belongs to the Belorussian branch of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and its oblast and primary organizations, which unite many thousands of activists.

We are arranging cooperation with the new trade union organizations in twinned voivodships. By mutual agreement seminars have been held in Belorussian oblasts with the participation of trade union workers and activists from Poland. Polish friends have visited production collectives, met with working people, and, as the saying goes, received at first hand information about the great rights of Soviet trade unions, about how trade union organs organize their work, and about how the law on labor collectives is applies in practice.

More than 60 industrial, transport, and agricultural enterprises now have partners in Poland. This is mutually advantageous. The collectives of the Minsk V.I. Lenin Tractor Plant Production Association and Poland's Ursus Tractor Industry Association have long traditions of friendship. A contract has been concluded between the two collectives, and an elaborate scientific, technical, and production cooperation program, whose chief aim is the rationalization and retooling of production and a considerable increase in the production of tractors, is being implemented. Mutual training of specialists is provided for on the basis of assimilating progressive production, technical, and technological experience. Cooperation is expanding between plant party committees and trade union, youth, and other public organizations. International socialist competition for a fitting greeting for the 40th anniversary of the great victory is being mounted in both enterprises. The significance and value of all this work lies in the fact that it contributes not just to successful progress but also to spiritual rapprochment and better mutual understanding among working people.

The collectives of the Brest section of the Belorussian Railroad and Malaszewicze Regional Railroad Board in Poland have been cooperating fruitfully for many years. Mutual assistance and support enable these collectives to successfully resolve tasks of ensuring the efficient running of international trains and the speediest transshipping and forwarding of export and import freight.

Ties are also strengthening between a number of agricultural enterprises: between the K.P. Orlovskiy Rassvet Kolkhoz in Mogilev Oblast and the Gluchowo State Agricultural Farm in Torun Voivodship; between the Mogilevskiy Hothouse Combine-Sovkhoz and the Nasiegniewo Truck Garden Combine in Wroclaw Voivodship, and others.

Ties in the sphere of science and technology are mutually advantageous and promising. At present, 12 institutes of the Belorussian SSR Academy of Sciences are cooperating with 20 Polish scientific establishments on a number of problems -- heat and mass exchange, mathematics, materials technology, nuclear power, molecular biology, environmental protection, biosynthesis, and linguistics.

Of oourse, there are still considerable reserves and unutilized opportunities in the development of cooperation between Belorussian SSR oblasts and Polish voivodships. For example, direct ties between industrial and agricultural enterprises, higher educational institutions, secondary specialized educational institutions, and schools could be more extensive and substantive. We have a lot of work to do to ensure that every trip and every joint measure is really highly effective and produces the maximum return. I believe that direct contacts between production collectives and exchanges of experience in various sectors of the national economy, carried out by groups of specialists, must be coordinated more closely with the general tasks of Soviet-Polish economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and with the guidelines and decisions of the CEMA countries' economic summit conference held in Moscow last year. The practice of passing on experience by working delegations of twinned enterprises directly at work places deserves significant dissemination. The work of oblast party committees and of interested ministries and departments must be more harmonious.

Soviet-Polish relations have clear and bright prospects. The Communists and working people of Belorussia, like all Soviet people, will continue to increase their contributions to the further broadening and deepening of the international unity of the CPSU and the PZPR and will devoutly cherish and strengthen the unbreakable friendship of the Soviet and Polish peoples.

WORKERS SUPPORT POLISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

LD271834 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Arkadiy Petrov commentary]

[Excerpts] The situation in Poland continues to stabilize. Arkadiy Petrov supplies the details.

Last summer, the Polish people went to the polls to elect the local government. They gave their full support to the nominees of the patriotic national revival movement. By doing so they voted for tranquillity, order, and normalization, for socialism all in all.

The promotion of socialist democracy is that feature of life in Poland that the Western mass media stubbornly overlook when they write about Poland. They fail to notice the increasing role that various public organizations have lately been playing in the life of Polish society, especially unions of intellectuals, writers, artists, actors, or journalists.

They also fail to notice the emergence of a new trade union movement on the Polish scene. In the last 2 years this movement has grown stronger within its new form and now unites about 5 million people in it, mostly workers.

Trade union organizations are available practically at every enterprise. They have their say in the solution of all the problem, be they economic or social and not only at factory but at state level as well. The trade unions, for example, took an active part in the discussion of the country's social and economic development program for the current year. At a meeting in the town of Bytom recently envoys of trade union organizations agreed to establish a national association of trade unions.

So the Polish trade union movement does exist and keeps developing whether the West desires this or not. The most important thing of course is that the Polish workers give every support to that movement.

Poland is still confronted with uneasy problems -- in the economic sector above all -- requiring the mobilization of all the efforts and resources, though much has already been done of late. Industrial output is going up, noticeable changes have occurred in agriculture. This year larger sums will be allocated from the national budget on the food program, on social and cultural needs. The scale of housing will expand: 190,000 apartments are expected to be built this year as compared to 137,000 in 1983.

VOROTNIKOV RECEIVES YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR FOR TALKS

LD272214 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast] announcer-read report]

[Text] Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, today received Comrade Drulovic, ambassador of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. A friendly talk was held, tackling issues of developing Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation.

FURTHER REPORTS ON GROMYKO VISIT TO ITALY

Andreotti Luncheon Speech

LD262243 Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Rome February 26 TASS -- The visit of Andrey Gromyko to Italy is an important indicator of the high level which characterizes political contacts maintained by the U.S.S.R. and Italy in compliance with the 1972 protocol on consultations, said Guilio Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs of Italy. He spoke at a luncheon in honor of the distinguished Soviet guest.

Dwelling on the most urgent international problems, Guilio Andreotti singled out the Soviet-U.S. agreement on negotiations on nuclear and space arms. He expressed the hope that it would be possible to achieve such agreements during the negotiations which would prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth, limit and reduce nuclear arsenals, and strengthen strategic stability.

He pointed out that Italy pays special attention to the development of the process of security and cooperation in Europe, including the conference under way in Stockholm, the conference in Ottawa and the cultural forum in Budapest. The conference in Stockholm is of special importance to us since it could objectively promote the Geneva talks, he said.

Ten years ago, in 1975, the Helsinki Final Act was signed. It consolidated the foundations of mutual relations among European peoples. This, Guilio Andreotti said, was an event that gave rise to great expectations in Europe and also on a wider scale. This event should be duly marked.

In 1985 it will be 40 years since the end of World War II, G. Andreotti said further. He stressed that the number of victims and the scope of devastation in the war years had been horrible, especially for the Soviet people who had lost 20 million lives in that war. The commitment that the European Continent and the world in general should never again be the scene of a war would be the best way to pay tribute to the memory of those who perished during the war.

Dwelling upon the Soviet-Italian relations, G. Andreotti stressed that contacts between the USSR and Italy were of fruitful and intensive nature, and not only in the political sphere, but also in various other spheres. Italy attaches much importance to a further improvement and expansion of this cooperation. Italy is going to give a new impetus to the trade and economic ties.

G. Andreotti said in conclusion that the visit to Italy of Andrey Gromyko and the current Soviet-Italian talks are a major contribution to a further development of cooperation between the USSR and Italy, that they reflect the common striving for friendship. For Italy this striving has been an important component of the past 40 years of its history which have also been the years of joint efforts aimed at the consolidation of stability and security and the development of bilateral cooperation on the European Continent.

Gromyko-Andreotti Talks Comparison

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 28 February carries on page 4 of its First Edition an article on the talks held in Rome between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and his Italian counterpart Giulio Andreotti. The item has been compared with the TASS English version, published in the 27 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 1, revealing the following variations:

PRAVDA omits the first two paragraphs and begins: [Text] Talks were held between A.A. Gromyko and Italian Foreign Minister G. Andreotti.

A.A. Gromyko stressed that... (picking up third paragraph);

Paragraph six, line three, PRAVDA reads: ...the Soviet document, "basic provisions of a... (picking up next line, supplying quotemarks);

Same paragraph, line five reads: ...of peaceful relations," whose aim is... (supplying quotemarks);

Paragraph seven, line two PRAVDA has "strict" instead of "unfailing";

Same paragraph, PRAVDA omits the last sentence;

Paragraph ten, PRAVDA omits the last sentence ;

Paragraph eleven, PRAVDA omits the last sentence

Gromyko-Pertini Meeting

LD271936 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Rome February 27 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Affairs Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko met with President Alessandro Pertini of the Italian Republic in the Quirinal Palace today.

During their friendly conversation, Andrey Gromyko conveyed to Italy's head of state regards and good wishes from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Konstantin Chernenko. Alessandro Pertini expressed sincere gratitude and, in turn, conveyed to Konstantin Chernenko greetings and best wishes.

Andrey Gromyko pointed out during the conversation that people in the Soviet Union know and highly value remarks by the Italian president, a former participant in the Italian resistance movement, which noted the Soviet people's decisive role in defeating nazism and fascism during World War Two. It was stressed that the forthcoming 40th anniversary of the victory will be widely observed by all peace-loving forces.

Andrey Gromyko and Alessandro Pertini came out in favour of carrying out constructive steps towards defusing world tensions and strengthening mutual trust in inter-state relations. Alessandro Pertini expressed the hope that the forthcoming Soviet-American talks at Geneva on space and nuclear armaments will be held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and will result in mutually acceptable accords which will positively tell on the situation all over the world.

Both sides expressed readiness for a further development of bilateral ties between the USSR and Italy, between the Soviet and Italian peoples.

Alessandro Pertini gave a luncheon in honour of Andrey Gromyko. An exchange of brief, friendly speeches was held.

Gromyko Meets With Pope

LD271846 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast -- announcer-read]

[Text] Today Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko visited the Vatican and held a conversation with John Paul II.

During their conversation, questions connected with the need for efforts to consolidate peace, avert the arms race in space, and halt the arms race on earth were discussed.

A joint statement has been adopted on the results of Soviet-Italian talks, which will be published in the press.

Gromyko Meets CP Leaders

LD271937 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Rome February 27 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Affairs Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko held a conversation today with General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Alessandro Natta and members of the PCI [Italian Communist Party] leadership.

During the conversation, held in a comradely atmosphere, the sides exchanged views on issues of interest to both parties. They discussed problems of campaigning for peace, curbing the race of armaments, above all space and nuclear ones, strengthening peoples' security and multiplying efforts to restore the process of detente in international life.

Alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, Soviet Ambassador to Italy Nikolay Lunkov was present during the conversation.

Gromyko Attends Reception

LD280936 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0808 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Rome, 28 Feb (TASS) -- In the evening of 27 February, the USSR ambassador to Italy, Nikolay Lunkov, gave a reception in honor of Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs, who is paying an official visit to Italy. Present at the reception, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, were Bettino Craxi, prime minister of Italy; Francesco Cossiga, president of the Senate; Giulio Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs; Giovanni Spadolini, minister of defense; Alessandro Natta, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party; members of the Italian Communist Party leadership; senators; parliamentary deputies; prominent representatives of business circles; figures from science, culture and the arts; ambassadors from foreign states accredited to Rome, and journalists.

During the reception, the mayor of Rome, Ugo Vetere, presented Andrey Gromyko with a document declaring that the Rome municipality will give the name of Vladimir Ilich Lenin to one of the city's streets.

Joint Statement Issued

PM281033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Soviet-Italian Statement"]

[Text] Rome February 27 TASS -- As a result of the Soviet-Italian talks that were held in the course of the visit of Andrey Gromyko to Italy, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, the concurrence of views on the following issues was placed on record:

The sides reaffirm their adherence to the policy of building up confidence and cooperation in relations between states, including on the European Continent, eliminating the threat of war, and strengthening peace. In this context they underscore the importance of the accord reached at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva on January 7-8 1985, as regards the subject and aims of the talks to be held between the USSR and the United States on outer space and nuclear weapons.

The decision to start drawing up effective agreements aimed at preventing the arms race in outer space and putting an end to it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear weapons, and at strengthening strategic stability is a major step forward on the way to putting an end to international tensions, which remains the aim of both sides.

The sides positively evaluate the fact that the subject of the talks will be a package of issues concerning outer space and nuclear weapons, strategic and medium-range ones; all these questions will be examined and resolved in their interconnection. They are convinced that the basis for the talks, agreed upon in Geneva, can contribute to substantial progress in all directions, which will be the subject of the talks.

The sides consider it highly important that the upcoming Geneva talks be held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and make it possible to find positive solutions to the problem of preventing the arms race in outer space and a drastic cut in nuclear weapons, including medium-range ones, on the basis of effective and balanced agreements, the security interests of all being ensured. The USSR and Italy will, each on its side, make vigorous efforts to contribute to finding just and mutually acceptable decisions.

The sides are expressing satisfaction with the agreement reached on the procedure of work at the Stockholm conference, which will make it possible to thoroughly examine the proposals tabled at the conference. They intend to contribute to the attainment of mutually acceptable agreements on measures to build up confidence and security in Europe, including the commitment of the participating states to renounce the threat or use of force.

A successful completion of the conference would, in the opinion of the sides, contribute considerably to strengthening the security and confidence in Europe politically and militarily. This conference is a component part of the all-European process, which resulted 10 years ago in the signing of the Final Act in Helsinki, whose implementation in all of its provisions remains a good basis for cooperation in Europe.

The USSR and Italy reaffirm that their ultimate goal is general and complete disarmament under effective international control. This calls for the use of outer space solely for peaceful purposes, and the total scrapping of nuclear weapons everywhere, as well as eliminating all other types of weapons.

The sides favor, as before, a strengthening of the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, a total and effective ban on chemical weapons, progress at the talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments and associated measures in central Europe, for stopping and reversing the arms race.

Both sides consider close cooperation to be useful in accordance with the Soviet-Italian protocol on consultations with the aim of contributing to a resumption of the detente process, elimination of the existing seats of tension, and normalization of the international situation.

Gromyko Leaves for Madrid

LD280925 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0905 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Rome, 28 Feb (TASS) -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR foreign minister, flew today from Rome to Madrid. He was in Italy on an official visit at the invitation of the Italian Government.

The Soviet guest was seen off at the capital's airport by Guilio Andreotti, the Italian foreign minister, other officials, and Nikolay Lunkov, ambassador of the USSR to Italy.

GROMYKO BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN

Spanish Press Views Visit

LD280743 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] As already reported, Comrade Gromyko's visit to Spain begins following the completion of his visit to Italy. Here is what Valentin Gorkayev, our Madrid correspondent reports.

The Spanish press emphasizes that during Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's visit, the examination of the topical questions of the international situation and bilateral relations will undoubtedly be conducive to a further deepening of mutual understanding and cooperation between Spain and the USSR. Economic, cultural, and scientific ties between Spain and the USSR have considerably expanded recently.

Gromyko Arrives in Madrid

LD281211 Moscow TASS in English 1154 28 Feb 85

[Text] Madrid February 28 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko arrived today in Madrid on an official visit at the invitation of the Spanish Government.

The distinguished guest was welcomed at Madrid's Barajas Airport by the Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran, the USSR Ambassador in Spain Yuriy Dubinin and other officials.

Western Media Coverage

For Madrid coverage of the visit to Spain of Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, including his meetings with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Foreign Minister Fernando Moran, see the Spain section of the 28 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FRG'S GENSCHER REPLACED AS FDP PARTY CHIEF

PM261558 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[Yuliy Yakhontov "Commentator's Column": "Change of Leadership"]

[Text] Bonn -- A notable event has occurred in FRG political life.

At a routine congress of the Free Democratic Party [FDP], which, as is known, makes up the government coalition with the conservative bloc of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] and the Christian Social Union [CSU], there was a change of leadership. H.-D. Genscher, FRG foreign minister and vice chancellor, who headed the West German liberals, has quit the post of chairman. His place has been taken by Martin Bangemann, the 50-year-old economics minister.

The idea of replacing the leadership was born deep within the party many months ago, when, following the break with the Social Democrats in 1982, the FDP transferred to the other camp and entered into an alliance with the CDU/CSU, thereby bringing that bloc to power. The change of political ally after 13 years of cooperation in the coalition of Social Democrats and liberals gave rise to profound disagreements within the FDP. The party began to lose votes. In a short time it lost its representation in the Landtags of three lands, and last summer, having failed to surmount the 5-percent barrier, it quite the European Parliament.

Taking account of the fact that Landtag elections are to be held in two lands this year and the party must urgently be rescued from the crisis, it was decided to replace Genscher with Bangemann.

Trained as a lawyer, M. Bangemann has been in the FDP since 1963. He was chairman of the party's land organization in Baden-Wuerttemberg and then its general secretary on a federal scale. He was elected to the Bundestag and has been a member of the European Parliament since 1973.

Addressing the congress, the FDP's new chairman confirmed his loyalty to the coalition with the CDU/CSU and advocated continuing it. At the same time, he considered it necessary to emphasize that he does not regard this cooperation as a "historical alliance." This coalition is temporary. At the same time, Bangemann was critical of the Social Democratic Party of German and the "Greens" party.

For the time being, Bonn political and journalist circles feel more skeptical than confident that the new chairman will succeed in extricating the party from the profound crisis into which it was driven by the policy of cooperation with the CDU/CSU and in overcoming the contradictions, fragmentation, and pessimism characteristic of the liberal party's grassroots. The fact is that the "Genscher era" is over, as today's FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU writes. The future will show what awaits the FDP.

FRG DEPUTY URGES 'EUROPEAN SUPPORT' FOR NATO

LD281024 Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Bonn February 28 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valeriy Glukhov reports:

30 years ago the West German Bundestag ratified the Paris agreements which promoted the FRG's entry into the aggressive NATO bloc and the Western European Union which provided for a possibility of remilitarization of West Germany. The mighty military industry, capable of producing most up-to-date armaments, was formed in the FRG over the period of 30 years. The lifting by the Council of the Western European Union of last restrictions from West Germany on the production of offensive types of armaments finally united the hands of leaders of the military-industrial complex. The Bundeswehr has now become the main strike force of the North Atlantic bloc in Europe. Its training system is such that in case of need more than a million officers and men could be put under arms in a brief period of time.

The FRG Army has up-to-date armored equipment, missiles and planes that can be used as carriers of weapons of mass destruction. West German generals hold high posts at the NATO headquarters and were even allowed to participate in nuclear planning of the joint armed forces of the bloc.

Note in this connection should be made of a statement by member of the Bundestag Defence Commission, Deputy from the Christian Democratic Union Markus Berger who emphasized that the 30th anniversary of the ratification of the Paris agreements is "the cause for joy". He advocated further build-up of the NATO's "European support" on the basis of the Western European Union, and also "closer" cooperation between West European countries in the military sphere.

PROPAGANDA PURPOSES INCLUDED IN NATO MANEUVERS

LD271739 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1932 GMT 26 Feb 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] Major NATO maneuvers began today in West Europe. All countries in the North Atlantic bloc, apart from Greece, are taking part in them. France and Spain have a restricted role as observers. Preparations for the maneuvers have been going on for nearly 3 years. The maneuvers will be in two 1-week stages with a 2-week break in between. The press in West European countries is drawing attention to the fact that not only military men, but also high ranking civil servants will be involved in these maneuvers, for one of the tasks of the excercises is to check the operations of government circles in crisis situation, so to speak. The first phase is designated as: in the event of an aggravation of tension; and the second: for defence. High ranking civil servants will even be moved from Bonn to one of the command points in the exercise area. As is evident, this time the maneuvers have a propaganda purpose as well as military aims. They are being used to repeatedly assert the alleged Soviet military threat and to blunt the watchfulness of public forces and reduce the scope of antiwar and antimissile demonstrations in West Europe.

MARCHAIS URGES SUPPORT FOR FRENCH COMMUNISTS

LD271906 Moscow TASS in English 0002 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Paris February 26 TASS -- Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party, called for using the forthcoming cantonal elections in France to promote the influence of the Communist Party. Speaking in a radio address, he made note of the important role of the Communists in defending the rights of the working people, combatting unemployment, preserving the purchasing power, and repulsing encroachments on trade union liberties.

The crisis experienced by France, Georges Marchais went on to say, is the crisis of the capitalist system as a whole. The general secretary of the French Communist Party reminded his audience that the Socialists who were in power in the country had failed to fulfil their promises. The program of Francois Mitterrand did not mention that in 1985 there would be 700,000 unemployed more in France, that 500,000 jobs in industry would be lost and that the purchasing power of the working people would drop, Georges Marchais stressed.

Implementing the decisions of the 25th Congress of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais said, French Communists are working to unite the masses disillusioned with the policy of the government and advocating genuine changes.

Georges Marchais stressed that scaled-up activities of right-wing forces in the country were a source of serious apprehension to the French people. Communists who were in the forefront of the struggle against fascism, racism and colonialism, he stressed, share this apprehension. Georges Marchais pointed to two main causes of that phenomenon -- the impact of the crisis experienced by the country and secret designs of certain political forces trying to use the extreme right-wingers for their own purposes.

USSR SENDS CONDOLENCES ON FRENCH MINE DISASTER

LD271422 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a message to the prime minister of the French Repbulic, Mr Laurent Fabius. The Soviet Government expressed profound condolences in connection with the accident at the Lorraine mine, which resulted in casualties and conveyed sincere sympathy to the families and loved ones of those who died.

SOVIET MINERS RESPOND TO TIMES 'LIBEL'

PM261622 Moscow TRUD in Russian 23 Feb 85 p 3

[Own international observer Aleksey Burmistenko "Letter Roundup": "The Miners' Response to the Liars at THE TIMES"]

[Text] The article "How the 'Thunderer' Got Its Facts Wrong," carried by TRUD on 16 January 1985, which exposed the London TIMES' libelous fabrications about the life of Soviet miners, has provoked numerous responses from our readers, especially miners. Readers have been particularly angered by THE TIMES' insinuation that there is unemployment in the Soviet Union. "Everything that THE TIMES writes about the life of Soviet miners is pure lies," writes V.I. Vorsin, leader of a shaft-sinking team at the Artemshakh Tostroy Trust's No 3 Mine Construction Administration. "There is enough work in our country, especially in the mining industry, for all those who want it. The notion of 'unemployment' is for us an alien long-forgotten phenomenon." "What kind of unemployment in our mines, or in our country as a whole, can they have in mind?" indignantly asks I. Ya. Golubyatnikov, faceman at Gorlovka's Rumyanetsev mine. "Is it so difficult for the gentlemen from THE TIMES to read the 'Situations Vacant' columns -- with jobs ranging from cleaners to chief engineers? This is not just ignorance on the part of THE TIMES, but, as we miners and workers say, downright lies." Many who wrote in response to THE TIMES' fabrications described in detail daily working and living conditions in mining, miners' earnings, production retooling, and improvements in safety procedures.

"My entire working life has been involved with the mining industry, where I have worked as a stoping faceworker for more than 20 years," writes A.V. Tarabara from the Shakhterskantratsit Production Association. "The party and government show paternal concern for us miners. Miners' earnings have increased, and I now earn R700-800 per month. We have seen a steady improvement in daily working and living conditions at the Moskovskaya mine. Injuries fell by 33.8 percent between 1980 and 1984, and there is an annual allocation of funds for occupational safety under the collective contracts that are concluded. In 1984, for example, R365,000 were allocated, all of which was spent.

"THE TIMES reports that Soviet miners received 'miserably low wages'". That is a lie; we receive very good wages," wrote members of a composite team of stoping faceworkers at the Dobropoyeugol Production Association's Dobropolskaya mine. "Last year, for example, average earnings in our team amounted to R536 per month for a 6-hour work day, with 2 days off a week. THE TIMES completely ignores the fact that Soviet miners have a short work day. And there is more.

THE TIMES goes to great lengths to claim that we have a high level of injuries and a poor standard of safety equipment in our mines. Lies again. Last year, for example, injuries fell by 9.7 percent, and in our mine there were no accidents at all in our team, which has 169 people in it." "For THE TIMES to lie so shamelessly about the 'injury rate in the Soviet Union,' faceworker I. Ya. Golubyatnikov adds, "It must have lost all sense of conscience. It would be better if the gentlemen from THE TIMES concerned themselves with the establishment of safety conditions in British mines and saw to it that miners did not suffer injury from policemen's blows. I would like to tell the striking British miners that we express solidarity with them and are giving and will continue to give them every support."

As TRUD's mail shows, our readers have easily seen through THE TIMES' provocation. "Many countries' working people are giving fraternal assistance to the striking miners, and here we have the British press attacking them and those who express solidarity with them," writes M.F. Shpilevoy, technical work inspector of the Tula Territorial Committee of the Coal Industry Workers Union. "But we have strong nerves, we will not be frightened...Don't you worry about our 'unemployment': Every mine here needs workers at the moment. Our earnings are not 'miserable,' as they venture to suggest. In our country we value demanding work and show every concern for the miners' health, safety procedures, everyday life, and cultural leisure."

British miners were our guests a while ago. We were very surprised when our British visitors told us that they receive their pensions at 65. Soviet miners retire at 50. The British miners saw how miners in the Moscow region live and work, went down mines, and visited preventive treatment clinics, kindergartens, and canteens. It would do THE TIMES' hacks no harm to have a word or two with them.

Hero of Socialist Labor P.A. Aleksandrov, mining machinery operator; V.A. Kapustin, trade union committee chairman at the Novomoskovskugol Production Association's Ivovskaya mine; M.D. Rudenkov, mining foreman of an extraction unit at the Donbassantratsit Production Association's No 6 mine named for IZVESTIYA; and many other readers have written to express their workers' solidarity with the striking British miners and complete backing for their just struggle for the right to work. "The bourgeois hacks should not pose as the Soviet miners' 'defenders.' They would do better to concern themselves with the working conditions and employment security of their own miners. As in the past, we will continue to support the legitimate demands of our class brothers, the British miners, for the right to work," says V.F. Kondrashov, electric-locomotive driver at the Pavlogradugol Production Association's Blagodatnaya mine.

Literally all the miners' responses express profound pride in their work and gratitude to the party and government for their constant concern in developing the mining industry and improving daily working and living conditions in mining. "I am proud of my mine and my profession," writes V.F. Tereshonok, faceworker in Section 46 of the Artemugol Production Association's A.I. Gayevoy mine in the city of Gorlovka. "I work in a difficult area of the national economy, and my labor is properly recognized by the state. The working conditions in our mine are good, there is no gas contamination, and there are constant steams of fresh air at every point along the face. Miners have at their disposal a modern administrative and consumer services center and the Shakhter Sports Complex, there is a Pioneer camp for our children, and workers undergo courses of treatment at preventive treatment clinics, sanatoriums, and leisure homes on the Black Sea coast, the Baltic, and in the Carpathians."

As far as we are aware, THE TIMES has coyly passed over TRUD's article in silence. However, such a posture of silence all the more betrays those who seek to denigrate Soviet reality. As one reader wrote, "The bigger the lies the London TIMES writes about a miner's life here, the deeper and dirtier the mess such 'thunderers' find themselves in." This is the Soviet miners' response.

JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN AGREEMENT CRITICIZED

Damascus Meeting Statement

LD271631 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus February 27 TASS -- A meeting of representatives of communist and workers parties of the Arab East has been held here to discuss the situation, which emerged in the region after the signing of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in Amman. The meeting also examined the situation in Lebanon after the Israeli troop withdrawal from Sidon area.

The joint statement adopted by the participants in the meeting points out that the Amman agreement threatens the cause of the Palestinians and the Palestine revolution, deepens the split among the ranks of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, leads to a deepening of differences between the Arab states and opens the way to strengthening American-Israeli influence in the region.

It is a consequence of the pressure being brought to bear on the PLO leadership with the aim of forcing on it a capitulatory policy, undermining the national cause of the Arab Palestinian people and splitting the liberation movement of the Arabs. It was signed at a time when United States imperialism is making feverish efforts to establish its undivided rule in the Middle East, is out to eliminate the gains of the Arab peoples, is trying to turn the region into an aggressive base spearheaded against the national liberation movements. The statement notes that the NATO countries and the imperialist circles have welcomed the Amman agreement and U.S. President Reagan described it as a "positive step."

The Amman agreement, the statement goes on to say, flouts the right of the Palestinian people to the creation of an independent state, undermines the right of PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. It rejects the decisions of the National Council of Palestine, including of its 16th session and the resolution of the Arab summit meeting in Fes. The agreement is a departure from the idea of holding an international conference on the Middle East with the aim of implementing the national aspirations of the Palestinians, in whose work all sides concerned in the Middle East conflict, including a separate delegation of PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine, should participate on a par. While proclaiming by word of mouth "talks under the aegis of an international conference," this document pursues the aim of coming to separate direct talks, as was the case as a result of the Camp David deal.

The communist and workers parties of the Arab East are categorically rejecting this agreement, calling for struggle to frustrate it, expressing solidarity with the patriotic Palestinian organisations and figures, who opposed it. They are expressing firm conviction that an indispensable condition for the implementation of the inalienable national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, attaining a just and lasting peace in the region is withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, adherence to the decisions of the Fes summit conference and the 16th session of the National Council of Palestine. The statement reaffirms support for the Soviet proposals on Middle East settlement.

The participants in the meeting hailed the victory scored by the fighting men of the Lebanese patriotic resistance front, who forced the Israeli occupationists to withdraw from Sidon. They declared their support for the struggle of the Lebanese people against the Israeli occupation, the actions by the population of the Israeli captured West Bank of the Jordan River, Gaza sector and the Golan Heights against Zionist genocide.

The representatives of communist and workers' parties stressed the need for deepening and strengthening the combat alliance of Syria, the Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement in the struggle against the plans and conspiracies of the United States imperialism and Zionism.

The statement points out that only the unity of all Arab progressive and patriotic forces and regimes, elimination of minor differences among their ranks, strengthening of relations with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community are a guarantee of successful rebuff of the onset of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Middle East.

PLO Official On Accord

LD261515 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait February 26 TASS -- Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has declared in an interview with the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY, KUNA, that, according to him, there was no need for the Amman Jordan-Palestine accord. He reiterated support for the resolutions of the all-Arab summits in Baghdad and Fes, rejecting separate variants of Middle East settlement. The resolution of the meetings, Faruq Qaddumi stressed, won broad international approval. The PLO Executive Committee confirmed its rejection of the so-called "Reagan plan".

The National Palestinian Council [PNC] at all its sessions proclaimed, Faruq Qadumi stressed, that a fair settlement of the Middle East conflict should provide for the exercise of the Arab Palestinian people's right to self-determination and establishment of an independent state of their own. The PNC also declared that the PLO should not forgo its right to represent Palestinians in any Arab or international settlement efforts and that this principle should underlie the organization's political activity.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONGRATULATES PDRY LEADER

LD202103 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram to Prime Minister Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, member of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee Politburo, cordially congratulating him on his appointment as prime minister and wishing him great successes in his work in that high post.

In a reply telegram, the prime minister conveyed thanks for the congratulations and expressed confidence that the friendly relations between the USSR and Democratic Yemen will continue to develop to the benefit of the peoples of both countries on the basis of the friendship and cooperation treaty.

AUCCTU ISSUES SOLIDARITY STATEMENT ON NICARAGUA

LD280926 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- The Soviet working people responded with angry condemnation to the new gross attacks of the U.S. Administration on the government of sovereign Nicaragua, the Central Council of the Soviet Trade Unions says in its statement.

The latest series of insinuations and threats to the young sovereign republic is to make the U.S. Congress appropriate funds to finance counterrevolutionary gangs and direct military intervention in the affairs of Nicaragua in order to overthrow the lawfully elected government. Large-scale military maneuvers are being conducted in close proximity of the Republic for the same purpose. The CIA has also escalated its terrorist operations.

The United States is simultaneously trying to paralyze production in the country so as to disrupt supplies and provoke discontent among the Nicaraguan people. The U.S. Administration is exerting pressure on the Inter-American Development Bank to block credits to Nicaraguan agriculture.

Speaking on behalf of millions of Soviet working people, the Central Council of the Soviet Trade Unions stated invariable solidarity with the people of the homeland of Sandino and voiced the firm confidence that the heroic Nicaraguan people would do everything necessary to protect their inalienable right to decide their destiny themselves.

FRIENDSHIP GROUPS ISSUE STATEMENT ON NICARAGUA

LD281001 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] February 28 TASS -- The Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the USSR-Nicaragua Friendship Society issued a statement voicing serious worry over the fresh threats of the U.S. Administration to Nicaragua.

The enemies of the Nicaraguan revolution, directed by U.S. imperialism, the document says, would not stop their attempts to disrupt the constructive efforts of the people who are building a society based on the principles of equality and justice. Openly violating norms of international law, the Reagan administration is organizing large-scale invasions of Nicaraguan territory by Somozista gangs and pressing the Congress for additional multi-million [dollar] funds to escalate an undeclared war against Nicaragua.

The Union of Soviet Friendship Societies strongly protested against the aggressive and very dangerous actions of the USA with regard to Nicaragua and voiced its solidarity with the heroic people of that country, standing up for their right to peaceful work, freedom and independent development.

DELEGATION DISCUSSES CUBAN MEDIA MANAGEMENT

LD271942 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] A delegation of party workers headed by Ignatenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department, has been visiting Cuba. The delegation exchanged experiences concerning party management of the mass media. During the visit, the Soviet delegation was received by Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

MANUEL RODRIGUEZ FRONT HOLDS RALLY IN SANTIAGO

PY271352 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has held a bold demonstration in downtown Santiago to celebrate the 200th birthday anniversary of the patriotic guerrilla fighter Manuel Rodriguez. The rally, held in the Plaza de Armas in Santiago, was the first public appearance of the FPMR, an organization that carried out spectacular actions last year that were received with sympathy by the sectors opposing the dictatorship.

Carabineros reported that of those who applauded the members of the FPMR during the rally, two persons were arrested.

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO URUGUAY -- A USSR delegation headed by Comrade Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow today for Montevideo. It is to take part in events linked to the installation of Julio Mario Sanguinetti as president of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 26 Feb 85 LD]

SUPREME SOVIET CREDENTIALS PRESENTED TO CHERNENKO

LD281305 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 28 Feb 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Credentials of a deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation were today presented to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The credentials were presented by Comrade Kalinin, chairman of the Constituency Election Commission of Kuybyshevskiy constituency in the city of Moscow.

When accepting the credentials, Konstantin Chernenko expressed heartfelt gratitude to the electorate of Moscow's Kuybyshev District for their great trust in him. He said that to be a deputy is a great honor and that he would try to be worthy of it. He noted that the elections and the entire election campaign were marked by an increased businesslike approach and by greater demands made by the working people of their deputies. This very healthy and correct trend is evidence that the measures taken at the April 1984 plenary session of the Central Committee to improve the work of soviets are yielding fruit.

It is good that our soviets have started making more extensive use of their rights to increase the output and improve the quality of consumer goods, Konstantin Chernenko stressed. They are playing an even more active role in the implementation of the school reform, in monitoring the activity of our legislative bodies, in strengthening discipline and order, and in solving many other questions concerning the working and living conditions of people. This line should be consolidated and developed, Konstantin Chernenko said further. More initiative, more persistence in day-to-day organizing work, this is the current task for all of us. This is especially important now as the party is advancing to its 27th congress, Konstantin Chernenko said in conclusion.

Present at the conferring of the credentials were Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom; Comrade Pribytkov, aide to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary; and Comrade Prokofyev, first secretary of Kuybyshevskiy Party Raykom.

CHERNENKO'S ELECTION SPEECH PUBLISHED AS PAMPHLET

LD271855 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 27 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's speech at the voters meeting of the Kuybyshevskiy constituency of Moscow City on 22 February 1985, "On the Road of Perfecting Developed Socialism, On the Road of Creativity and Peace" [Po Puti Sovershenstvovaniya Razvitogo Sotsializma, Po Puti Sozidaniya i Mira] has been published as a separate pamphlet. The pamphlet was published by the Political Literature Publishing House.

DATA ON REPUBLICAN ELECTION TURNOUT REPORTED

LD280017 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The central electoral commissions of all 15 union republics have reviewed data on the results of elections to the supreme soviets of the republics.

In the Russian Federation 101,058,205 people took part in electing deputies to the republic's Supreme Soviet; 99.93 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 975 deputies have been chosen.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR 36,512,808 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 650 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian SSR 7,302,049 people took part; 99.98 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 485 deputies have been elected.

In the Uzbek SSR elections of deputies to the republic's Supreme Soviet 8,764,670 people took part; 99.98 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 510 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh SSR 9,263,654 people took part; 99.97 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 510 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian SSR 3,350,526 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 440 deputies have been elected.

In the Azerbaijan SSR elections for deputies to the republic's Supreme Soviet 3,545,598 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 450 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR 2,405,228 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 350 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Moldavian SSR 2,701,968 people took part; 99.98 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 380 deputies have been elected.

In the Latvian SSR 1,880,793 people took part in election of deputies to the republic's Supreme Soviet; 99.97 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 325 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Kirgiz SSR 2,041,356 people took part; 99.95 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 350 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Tajik SSR 2,157,348 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for candidate deputies and 350 deputies have been elected.

In the Armenian SSR in elections for deputies to the republic's Supreme Soviet 1,893,832 people took part, 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 338 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen SSR 1,578,102 people took part; 99.99 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 330 deputies have been elected.

In elections for deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR 1,103,327 people took part; 99.96 percent of the electorate voted for the candidate deputies and 285 deputies have been elected.

The central electoral commissons of all 15 union republics, having reviewed the data obtained on the results of elections, and on the basis of the corresponding articles in the laws on elections to republican supreme soviets, have registered deputies elected to supreme soviets in all constituencies. All elected deputies are candidates of the Communist and nonparty bloc.

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET TO CONVENE 26 MARCH

LD271312 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has resolved to convene the first session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the second convocation on 26 March 1985 in Moscow.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW GORKOM MEETING

LD262046 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The working people of the capital have taken Comrade Chernenko's speech at the meeting of voters from the Kuybyshev constituency as a militant program for action. Tasks of the city party organization on improving the use of production potential created in Moscow's industry, and on this basis a continued increase of efficiency and quality of work in light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee Plenums and Comrade Chernenko's instructions and recommendations were discussed at a plenum of the Moscow Gorkom which took place today.

Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, delivered a report. It was noted that the modernization and technical reequipment of enterprises are the main direction of the development of Moscow's industry. Contributions made emphasized that a large role in the creation of the necessary conditions are improved use of existing potential allocated to the measures which the party has outlined with a view to perfecting production relations. Particular significance in this connection is attached to the large-scale economic experiment in a number of industries and sectors. In Moscow this is being carried out in more than 80 works and factories.

Those who took part in the plenum discussed a wide range of questions connected with enhancing the efficiency of production and the quality of all work, and they exposed shortcomings and outlined ways of eliminating them. An improvement in the use of the capital's existing production potential is connected, to a significant degree, with perfecting the organization of socialist competition and the system of preparing cadres, workers and specialists, strengthening labor and plan discipline, more rapidly applying in production up-to-date achievements of science and practice, and strengthening the system of economizing.

The plenum outlined measures for the further intensification of production and the strengthening of party guidance of the economy. Comrades Antonov and Baybakov, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, took part in the work of the plenum, together with responsible CPSU workers and leaders of a number of USSR and RSFSR ministries and departments.

TASS CARRIES GROMYKO SPEECH TO KALININGRAD VOTERS

LD191607 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 19 Feb 85

["Andrey Gromyko's Speech Before the Electorate" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 19 TASS -- The election of people's deputies is a vivid manifestation of how socialist democracy functions. The idea of democracy as the power of the people in the interests of the people is realized in this country first of all through the soviets, stated Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who stands for election to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, addressing the electorate in the city of Kaliningrad, near Moscow, today.

It is quite appropriate in this connection, he said, to compare the nature and practice of the formation of state power bodies in the Soviet Union and in that other world where capital predominates, where human values are ruthlessly tramped for the benefit of the exploiters. Of value to them is only what is of benefit and brings profits. It is precisely on these scales that everything is weighed by those who are at the helm of power there.

They have chosen for the destiny of people deprived of jobs. What kind of society is the one where millions of citizens find themselves outside life worthy of the human being and remain without means of subsistence and where it is not even reckoned dishonourable to make money on moral degradation and on the exploitation of human souls.

The police truncheon stands on guard of narrow, selfish interests of the ruling class. It is prepared for those who uphold the rights of the working people, who come out against the frenzied arms race and preparation of war.

There are a lot of shouters in the employ of bourgeoisie, the shouters who specialise in various kinds of inventions about socialism and about the social system in our country. The conveyor for the production of falsehoods and fabrications about socialism has been functioning uninterruptedly since the day when the Russian proletariat under the leadership of Lenin and the Bolshevik Party accomplished the socialist revolution which did away with the exploiters' oppression on the one sixth of the globe.

Those bourgeois yes-men, vying with one another, try to prove that genuine democracy is ostensible, not the people's socialist democracy, but the one which exists in capitalist countries and which is suited to the taste of the exploiter class. Such misleading assertions have been convincingly disproved thousands and thousands of times by both the scientific theory and by life itself. Every thinking person cannot but see the veritable abyss which separates socialist democracy from bourgeois one.

Indeed, who does not know that in the capitalist countries things are arranged in such a way as to bar representatives of the working people from governing the state, Andrey Gromyko said.

Here is a concrete fact characterising bourgeois democracy.

In the U.S. Senate -- which is the upper house of the American Congress -- there is not a single representative of the working class. Not a single one! The powers that be have seen to it that the voice of a working man is never heard from the rostrum of a body that is pictured as a model of democracy. The situation is the same in the other house of the Congress, the House of Representatives.

What can then be said about all other levels of state, administrative authority in such a country? Small wonder therefore that the leaders shaping home and foreign policies in capitalist countries are trying to cast slurs on socialism and socialist democracy.

The Soviet people reject with contempt all such slander. They are following with determination the road they have chosen, including that in the sphere of the state system.

Deputies of the soviets of all levels are loyally serving the people and carrying out their will. They are flesh of the flesh of their people and they have no duty higher than that of taking care of the welfare of the people.

In their activities in the international field the CPSU and the Soviet state have been invariably guided by the unanimous instruction of our people -- to strengthen the mainstays of world peace.

Every person in the Soviet Union votes for this. Also sacred for us is the behest of those who gave their lives for the freedom and independence of our homeland, for the glowing ideals of communism.

On the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the great victory we have every reason to say that today, just as before, the Soviet Union together with other socialist countries is firmly standing guard over peace.

Concerted and dynamic are the actions in the international arena of the states of the socialist community, cemented together by commonly held views, aims and ideals in the struggle for peace and socialism. The alliance formed by these states adds to the effectiveness of their foreign policy. Its foundation is strong and indestructible like a monolith.

This is the Warsaw Treaty. It is for thirty years now that it has been reliably guarding the gains of socialism, serving well the interests of international security and has been the generator of collective initiatives aimed at strengthening peace in Europe and throughout the world. And the Warsaw Treaty will continue fulfilling its mission.

This is the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance which represents an effective instrument of economic integration of the socialist countries and international socialist division of labour, an instrument of establishing peaceful cooperation among states.

This is the system of bilateral treaties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance, working for peace.

In the international situation that has deteriorated in recent years the peoples of the world clearly see how great is the role played by the Soviet Union, the entire socialist community, in upholding man's primary right, the right to life. The peaceable foreign policy of socialism gives them hope that a nuclear catastrophe will not befall mankind.

The concentrated and tireless efforts of our party and state are now focused on improving the political climate in the world and achieving a radical change for the better in international affairs.

This change is wanted, it is fought for by millions of people in all continents. Today there is a clear watershed passing between those, who believe in human reason, and those, who have everything eclipsed by imperial ambitions and crusading anti-communism.

The peoples, including also those of the NATO countries -- the Americans, the British, the West German, the French, the Italians and the others, are all averse to war in an equal measure. The same can be said of the peoples of all other states of Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. The Soviet Union is linked with the vast majority of these countries with normal friendly relations and with some of them with close fraternal ties.

The atmosphere of militarist psychosis is worked up and the flywheel of military production, especially that of weapons of mass annihilation, twirled by those who stand at the helm of the NATO bloc's policy, who covet world domination. It is they that demonstrate daily, one can say, a narcotic addiction to the arms race.

The high stake, which certain U.S. quarters have made in their policy on gaining military superiority so that to be able to foist their will on others, can only be described as reckless. Historical experience shows irrefutably that "peace through strength", and it is this kind of peace that has been proclaimed the aim of this course, is a worthless and dangerous policy. Apart from that, it holds out no prospects also for its architects.

Our country and its allies resolutely counter this policy line in world affairs. We have given and shall give firm rebuffs to attempts at bringing pressure to bear on us.

The overtly militarist policy of the United States has given rise to concern even among its partners in NATO. Sometimes they, even if not all of them, bluntly voice their discontent with adventurist manners in American policy.

The feeling of concern has grown more acute also among the population of Western countries where an anti-war movement has mounted, sweeping also the United States.

Of course, comrades, a tremendous positive impact has been and is made on the international situation by our policy of peace, our concrete proposals aimed at removing the threat of war. The truth about what the Soviet Union stands for on the world arena, about what it insistently calls on other states to do does manage to get through to popular masses also in the NATO countries.

In Washington they could not but reckon with all this. So they have ultimately decided it necessary to enter the talks proposed by the Soviet Union.

Though with difficulty, the American side had to agree to our standpoint on the subject and objectives of the talks as well as the need to examine questions at them as a complex, in their organic interrelationship.

Our assessment of the Geneva agreement is known. The United States and its allies should know that this agreement should be fulfilled in earnest and in good faith.

"A positive outcome of the new Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms," stresses K.U. Chernenko, "would have a favourable effect on the world situation and be a major advance along the road of solving the cardinal problems of the times."

The CPSU Central Committee and the Political Bureau are convinced, as before, that there are no international problems that it would be impossible to settle at the negotiating table.

We have reminded the United States of America and other NATO countries more than once that the complete elimination of nuclear weapons should become the highest goal of all states of the world, of all governments:

Our country has rung the tocsin since the emergence of nuclear weapons.

The danger existing today would not exist if the United States had agreed to a proposal, tabled by the USSR as far back as 1946, for banning nuclear weapons once and for all. And nobody can whitewash the policy of those, who have declined that proposal.

Today our country warns at the top of its voice about a new threat to humanity. It flows from a plan for militarizing outer space, which has been put forward by Washington.

The Soviet people are informed about the aggressive substance of the mentioned plan. It dramatically heightens the threat of nuclear war. That is why we raise with such urgency the question of preventing militarization of outer space.

Any efforts to camouflage the substance of that plan, by sticking labels with the inscription "defensive" to it, must not mislead anyone.

The Soviet Union candidly warned the U.S. Administration: Realization of its designs with respect to space would mean that any reduction, to say nothing of elimination of nuclear weapons, would be out of the question. Moreover, that would open the gates for the further race in arms in all directions and would undermine international security.

The reality of the existing situation is such that a military-strategic parity, that is an approximate equilibrium of forces, exists between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. Our country is not striving for military supremacy but will allow no one to change the existing parity to the detriment of our security.

It is possible to ensure reliably the security of either side only through achieving agreements, mutually acceptable agreements based on the principle of equality and equal security.

Washington is leaning over backwards to prove that the arms buildup, requests for huge funds for military purposes create the best conditions for the negotiations. If one follows that logic it means that the higher the stockpiles of weapons the easier it is to come to terms on their reduction.

The hypocrisy of such statements cries out at you. Such a line in reality is aimed precisely at undermining the changes of success of the negotiations. The nations and the American people, to be sure, should know about that.

The objective of the negotiations should be not the deception of the partner and public opinion -- with such morals, as K.U. Chernenko stresses, we cannot agree -- but the search for accords which would meet the interests of peace. The possibility of attaining them must not be missed.

We are being told that much time will be needed for that and that a long and difficult road lies ahead. Yes, we look at the existing difficulties realistically.

Here everything will depend on whether the sides have the desire, political will and readiness to reach agreement on the basis of a reasonable compromise. The Soviet Union possesses all this.

The question is how the American side will behave itself. If it does not create artificial complexities in the negotiations and if it displays the necessary restraint in its actions it will be possible to achieve positive results.

I think that everyone understands that if the aim has been set to come to an agreement, then, at least, nothing should be done that would hinder its achievement.

And what is happening in Washington now?

Every day high-ranking state officials make statements one after another to the effect that the American position in the forthcoming negotiations with the Soviet Union should be tough and unyielding. The importance of using space for military purposes is being specially stressed. This is the most militarist of the doctrines that have been put forth in Washington.

It is openly declared there: All that the U.S. representatives to the negotiations in Geneva should do is simply provide explanations concerning U.S. plans in space. It is said pre-emptively that there is no intention of making any changes in these plans. But the U.S. leadership knows fairly well that this is a position of a blind alley. If the U.S.A. sticks to such a position in the negotiations it will bear full blame for the consequences.

Both powers -- the Soviet Union and the United States of America -- should fully come to realize what a tremendous responsibility they shoulder. This is the responsibility for the resolution of the most urgent problems of the present-day world linked with the termination of the arms race, and real disarmament down to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The light-heartedness with which certain circles of the U.S.A. approach the negotiations that start shortly deserves to be sternly condemned by all the states standing on the positions of peace and coming out in favor of a positive outcome of the negotiations.

As to the statements which one has to hear from Washington these days to the effect that the Soviet Union allegedly cannot catch up with the U.S.A. in its plans for militarization of outer space, there is more than enough self-conceit in such statements.

Our country, proceeding from the interests of peace, that is, the supreme interests of the entire human race, suggests: Let us agree without delay on removing once and for all the very possibility of the appearance of weapons to space.

The preservation of peace -- the goal of universal value to all mankind -- demands that the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. compete in one and only area both in words and in deeds -- in putting forward initiatives and adopting concrete measures aimed at resolving that historic task. We are convinced that the American people are no less interested in its resolution than all other peoples.

We stand for putting the negotiations on space and nuclear arms on the right track from the very outset, for creating a felicitous atmosphere in the negotiations. I will list the top-priority steps which could be taken in this respect.

The question of the no first use of nuclear weapons comes first. The Soviet Union is known to have assumed the obligation on that score. But Washington has announced that it will not follow the example of our country.

How does the United States look in the light of the adoption by the U.N. of the resolution declaring the unleashing of a nuclear war to be a criminal act? On that matter of exceptional importance the U.S.A. challenges the entire human race and goes against its manifestly expressed will.

We have repeatedly called upon the American side to resume and carry to an end the negotiations on the complete termination of nuclear weapon tests. However, they in Washington do not conceal that they will continue the testing so as to develop new types of these weapons and increase their killing power. It seems to them that not enough nuclear warheads have been stockpiled, that their destructive potential is still low.

What can be said to such figures? Let them put their ears to the ground and hear it literally groan under the tremendous load of armaments, and still, their stockpiling continues.

In nothing else, perhaps, is there such a broad and general accord today as on the question of the need for freezing nuclear armaments without delay.

This imperative is dictated not only by quite understandable human emotions. It reflects an understanding by people of the fact that the existence of approximate parity in nuclear armaments gives the sides the opportunity to agree to a nuclear freeze without any detriment to their security. It is also obvious that one cannot move to a lower level of nuclear armaments without stopping at first and ceasing to build them up.

The Soviet Union wants this to be done. And at any moment, even tomorrow.

I cannot but stress the great importance of the joint initiative of socialist countries for concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force between the Warsaw Treaty states and the states of the North Atlantic alliance. Realisation of this initiative would lead up to considerable positive changes in the international political atmosphere.

This and a number of other major proposals of the states of the socialist community have been submitted for discussion also to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security-Building Measures, and Disarmament. We want the forum in Stockholm to be productive and to conclude successfully.

In connection with the state of affairs in Europe, I cannot but make special mention of one of its aspects.

The Soviet Union will not pass by the fact that forces which have not yet abandoned hope for revising the European frontiers, established after World War Two, are rearing their heads somewhere.

The revanchists are encouraged by the patronising tapping on their shoulder by the official circles of certain Western countries, statements coming from them and clearly showing a desire to call in question the commitments undertaken by the members of the anti-Hitler coalition.

But the post-war realities came into being as a result of the great victory over fascism. They are recorded in the allied agreements on post-war arrangement, in bilateral treaties between a number of states, in the Helsinki Final Act. Faithfulness to all this is an earnest of tranquility and security in Europe.

Nobody has the right to encroach on the Yalta and Potsdam agreements which have underlied European and universal peace for as many as four decades now. The people have paid a dear price for these agreements.

To struggle vigorously to prevent the conflagration of world war from erupting ever again -- such is the essence of the commitments made by the victor powers.

The Soviet Union is faithful to its vow and confirms this once again today when all mankind, all those, who really cherish the interests of peace, are going to mark the 40th anniversary since the end of World War II.

If our common approach to conducting international affairs is to be described briefly, then it is as follows: Together with other socialist countries we stand for such law and order in the world as would enable the people of every country, big or small, to decide its destiny independently.

No state has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of another state, to force alien ways on other peoples. Any outside actions to change or undermine the social system of states, to topple their lawful governments are inadmissible.

We strongly condemn the policy of diktat, the policy of state terrorism in respect of any people, any country, be it Nicaragua or Cuba, Afghanistan or Lebanon, or Namibia.

The peoples will never put up with the arbitrariness perpetrated by imperialism. This is borne out also by the activities of the Non-Aligned Movement, the positions it holds on the questions of war and peace, the development of equitable international cooperation. The Soviet Union thinks highly of the role played by that movement in the present-day world.

Aware of its historical responsibility, our country invariably stays in the vanguard of the forces of peace, democracy and social progress. Its policy is permeated with genuine humanism, concern for the present and future of humanity.

"We are prepared," stresses K.U. Chernenko, "honestly and constructively to interact with all those, who really want the further development of world affairs to proceed not up the new steps of nuclear competition but along the road of strengthening peace and security, detente and trust."

The foreign policy of the Land of the Soviets is strong because it is backed by the will of the entire Soviet people. The guarantee of its efficacy is selfless labor of the working class, collective farm peasantry and people's intelligentsia.

In the future, too, this policy will be aimed at ensuring favorable international conditions for our successful advance along the road of communist construction.

The party and the people devote undiminishing attention to the strengthening of the country's defense capabilities. Our glorious Armed Forces have everything necessary to safeguard the gains of socialism. We and our allied states have sufficient strength and means to safeguard their interests and their security.

Our achievements both in the domestic and international fields alike are inseparably linked with the party of Lenin, the party of Communists. The Soviet people have infinite confidence in it, for the CPSU has no other interests than the interests of the people.

The unity of the party and the people which is growing with each passing day is an inexhaustible source of might of the Soviet state and its influence in the world.

PRAVDA UKRAINY CARRIES SHCHERBITSKIY ELECTION SPEECH

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[RATAU report on speech delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, candidate deputy to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at the 12 February meeting with his voters in Bagleyskiy constituency, Dneprodzerzhinsk]

[Text] Esteemed comrades: First of all, allow me to express great and heartfelt gratitude for the high honor and confidence invested in me -- my nomination as candidate deputy to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet (applause).

Your confidence is a unanimous support for our party's policy, of approval for its practical activity aimed at further strengthening our state's potential, at raising the people's prosperity, and at preserving and consolidating peace on earth. (Applause). Our party has no loftier goal than to selflessly serve the people's interests and to display constant concern for their good and happiness.

The forthcoming elections to the supreme soviets in union republics and the local soviets of people's deputies will undoubtedly turn into a new brilliant confirmation of the monolithic unity of the inviolable bloc of Communists and non-party members, and of the close cohesion of the Soviet people around the CPSU and its Central Committee. (prolonged applause).

Our party's combat headquarters headed by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, prominent statesmen and party figure, is purposefully and consistently pursuing the Leninist CPSU general line aimed at the consolidation of Soviet society's moral and political unity and unbreakable friendship among the country's peoples, and at the further blossoming of our great socialist homeland. (stormy, prolonged applause).

On the eve of my meeting with you, I had a conversation with Comrade K.U. Chernenko. Konstantin Ustinovich inquired about the work of national economic branches in the winter season, about the mood of the people, and received with satisfaction the information that the republic's working people were actively preparing for the next party congress, were making the efforts necessary to implement the CPSU Central Commitee's directives for further improvements in production and in public life, and fully approved the complex of our party and state initiatives aimed at improving the international situation.

Comrade K.U, Chernenko expressed gratitude to all collectives who nominated him candidate deputy to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, and conveyed the best wishes to the inhabitants of Dneprodzerzhinsk and all the republic's working people. (Storms, prolonged applause). The distinguishing feature of the current electoral campaign, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy continued, is the fact that it is taking place in the period of immediate preparations for a truly historic event in the life of our party and all people -- the 27th CPSU Congress.

As is known, the congress will adopt a highly important political document, the new edition of the CPSU program, which will define the party's strategy and tactics in the process of perfecting developed socialism. Imminent changes and amendments will also be introduced in the CPSU statutes. The congress will draw up plans for the party and people's creative activity in the coming 5-year period and in the period up to the year 2000. The party congress documents will undoubtedly contribute a great part to the theoretical activity of the CPSU, and will enrich the treasury of Marxism-Leninism. (Applause).

The year of the coming elections is also the year of great festivity -- the 40th anniversary of the victory won by the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War. All that imparts particular enthusiasm to both the electoral campaign and the multiform work to fulfill the plans and targets for the current year. Like all Soviet people, the republic's working people are making persistent efforts to successfully complete the 5-year period.

The Ukraine's people boundlessly trust the party of great Lenin, their tested collective leader, inspirer, and organizer of all victories. (Stormy, prolonged applause). This trust is being daily and hourly confirmed by the concrete deeds of each collective in its sector. The common efforts of the country's fraternal nations and ethnic groups are redoubling the national wealth and spiritual potential, and are consolidating the international prestige of our beloved motherland. This is a striking and brilliant manifestation of the Leninist nationality policy pursued by the CPSU. (Prolonged applause).

Of course, the preparations for the election to the bodies of state power, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, are also both a nationwide review and an exacting evaluation of everything that has been done and achieved in the period between the elections. Since we speak about the main result of the past 5 years, it consists in the fact that our people are confident in their progress along the path indicated by the Communist Party, the path of the further all-around development of socialist society. (Prolonged applause). Our country has become even more powerful, and the Soviet people have begun to live more prosperous and spiritually richer lives. This is an indusputable fact that has undoubtedly been felt and is being felt by each Soviet family! (Applause).

Also important is the fact that a realistic and creative attitude to the matter at hand and irreconcilability to shortcomings are increasingly gaining a foothold in the activity of party, administrative, and economic bodies. As it known, a great deal has been done and is being done to further develop socialist democracy, strengthen discipline and good organization, and raise the responsibility of cadres. All that has positively affected both economic results and the moral and political atmosphere in the country. In a word, our doings, people's attitude to them, and people's moods have significantly improved. (Applause].

The difficulties experienced in the first years of the 5-year period were to a large degree caused by external factors. Of course, there were also internal causes. In particular, the costs of raw materials extraction and energy production went up. It is well known how severely we were tested by the elements; bad harvest years followed one after another. At the same time, some management methods have become obsolete and hampered development in a number of sectors.

Under these complicated and difficult conditions, our party with Leninist adherence to principles revealed shortcomings, mobilized the masses, and achieved a turn for the better. As a result of this, the pace of economic and social development has hastened and stabilized. We are confident that the 5-year plan will for the most part be fulfilled. Particularly important is the point that the 5-year social program is being fulfilled.

Notwithstanding the complex weather conditions, in 1984 the republic obtained the highest ever volume of gross agricultural production. Grain production increased, and the plans for procuring potatoes, vegetables, grapes, and stockbreeding produce were overfulfilled. This has made it possible to increase the market stocks, in particular those of meat, by 10 percent, those of milk by 15 percent, and those of eggs by 5 percent.

The achievements in economic development make it possible to successfully accomplish social tasks. Since the beginning of the 5-year period, the real incomes of the population have risen, the wages of various categories of workers have increased, pension insurance for the workers, employees, and kolkhoz peasants, as well as material and living conditions for the participants in the Great Patriotic War, have improved. The state has increased its assistance to families at child birth and to single women with children. Payments and benefits from communal consumption funds amounted in 1984 to about R25 billion, or R484 per capita.

Our people's housing conditions are constantly improving. About 1.5 million people in the republic are moving each year to new dwellings. This means that five new cities, each equal in population to Dneprodzerzhinsk, are being built annually. A great deal has also been done to improve trade and consumer services, and to further promote education, science, culture, and health services.

In accordance with the 1984 results of all-union socialist competitions, the Ukrainian SSR, 8 oblasts, and the city of Kiev, 60 cities and rayons, including Dnepropetrovsk, many associations, enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes have been awarded Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee. In a word, ponderable results have been achieved in all fields, and we may take legitimate pride in them! (applause).

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy touched upon positive changes taking place in Dneptopetrovsk Oblast. The indexes of fulfilling plans for economic and social development are improving, the effectiveness of industrial and agricultural production is rising, and significantly better use is being made of the achievements of scientific-technological progress and advanced experience. A great deal is being done to improve housing and living conditions for the population, and particularly for the veterans of the Great Patriotic War. However, the great production, scientific, and technical potential, as well as the rich experience of the oblast's party organization, give a chance to settle the set tasks faster and better.

In the last 5 years, appreciable changes have taken place in industrial Dneprodzerzhinsk. Above all, its industrial potential is growing confidently, and the volume of marketed commodity production is rising. Nearly one-third of it is being supplied with state quality marks. However, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy pointed out, this is too little, and you must aspire to supply practically all production with high quality marks. The city is successful in settling difficult tasks for reconstructing and reequipping enterprises without interrupting production. One-third of fixed assets has been renewed through reconstruction. A large converter shop at the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Metallurgical Combine, complexes for ammonia and carbamide production, and a number of other large national economic facilities have been put into operation. Highly important is the fact that these facilities were put into operation and reached their production capacities ahead of schedule.

A marked step forward has been made by the Dzerzhinka Collective. As is known, the combine was lagging for a long time, but as a result of having renovated production capacities and adopted progressive technologies, last year its output of steel, compared with 1983, rose by more than 400,000 tons, and that of rolled metals by 125,000 tons.

There is also every reason to evaluate positively the results of the work performed by our republic's working people in recent years. In the period since the previous election, the national income, that main index of the effectiveness of communal production, has risen 21 percent. The value of industrial production marketed in excess of the plan in the 5 years totaled R5.6 billion, and the share of consumer goods amounted to approximately half of this total. Fixed assets, which are a highly important part of the national wealth, reached at the end of 1984 an enormous total of nearly R355 billion. It is to be noted that, in the last 5 years, we have put into service more fixed assets than we had in the mid-sixties. These are the truly impressive scales of our advance. (applause)

The branches determining technical progress in the entire national economy, the speaker noted, have continued to develop at priority rates. In the economy as a whole, qualitative indexes have significantly improved. In 1984, most national economic branches and oblasts successfully fulfilled socialist pledges for increasing labor productivity in excess of the plan and for additionally reducing production costs.

Marked changes for the better, and this is a particularly pleasing fact, have taken place in the work of basic industrial branches, capital construction, and transportation. A great deal has been done to develop the fuel and energy complex. As envisaged by the USSR energy program, new energy-generating capacities put into operation in the republic since the beginning of the 5-year period, primarily at nuclear power stations, totaled 7.6 million kilowatts. The 1984 plans for coal extraction were fulfilled, and the targets for the output of petroleum and natural gas have been exceeded since the beginning of the 5-year period. It is also to be noted that, as a result of the commissioning of the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas main (which runs across 10 oblasts of the republic for 1,143 kilometers), 428 cities and villages, as well as 585 industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes have been supplied with gas. In 1984, the republic's metallurgists markedly increased the output of pig iron, steel, and rolled metals.

Speaking generally, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, owing to the practical measures taken, the economy of the Ukrainian SSR and other republics is developing with growing confidence along the intensive path. This has been convincingly confirmed by the fact that the increased labor productivity was accountable for practically the entire increase in the national income obtained in the 4 years of the 5-year period. Substantial changes have also taken place on the industrial map of the Soviet Ukraine. Dozens of large enterprises, projects, and facilities, which can be rightly classified as industrial giants, have been built, including large power blocks at the Chernobyl and the South Ukrainian Nuclear Power Stations, a rolling mill "3000" at the Ilich Metallurgical Combine in Zhdanov, the 26th CPSU Congress Alumina Plant in Nikolayev, the Dnestr Hydraulic Heat and Power Plant, a number of new mines, and facilities for the production of mineral fertilizers, agricultural machines, and goods for the population in Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Odessa, Kharkov, Sumy, Ivano-Frankovsk, and other oblasts. What matters is that the Soviet Ukraine's production potential has not only increased, but also has attained a new qualitative level in all respects.

The party line aimed at the further development of the agro-industrial complex and of agricultural production as a part of the former remains invariable. In the past 5 years, nearly R27 billion were allocated for the consolidation of the material-technical base of the republic's agriculture alone. Note should also be taken of the following data: Compared with 1980, the worker-power ratio and funds available at the kolkhozes and sovkhozes have risen 33 percent, and the supplies of mineral fertilizers almost 25 percent. The area of ameliorated lands has expanded by 800,000 hectares.

On this basis, the productivity of plant growing and stock breeding is rising, although not as fast as one would like.

Valuable experience in intensifying productions has been accumulated by the labor collectives of the Pridneprovskiy Chemical Plant, the Azot Production Association, and others.

A great deal has also been accomplished in Dneprodzerzhinsk in the social sphere. Housing space built in the last 5 years totaled 625,000 square meters. This has enabled 17,000 familes to improve their housing conditions. Some 3,000 families have profited by the removal from a zone with poor hygenic conditions [sanitarno-zashchitnaya zona] to houses with modern conveniences, and the so-called barrack resources have been fully eliminated. Some 10 children's preschool establishments, 2 hospitals, and a polyclinic have been put into service. The network of trade and public catering enterprises has expanded. Retail commodity turnover in the city has increased by R50 million. Eloquent is also the following index: Private automobiles in Dneprodzerzhinsk have increased by 6,500 and is continuing to grow. Food supplies to the population have improved, and it is important to note that a weighty part in this matter is being contributed by subsidiary farms run by enterprises. In addition to resources allotted in the centralized manner, they are producing annually nearly 800 tons of pork, more than 1,000 tons of fresh fish, and again as many vegetables grown in hothouses. This is useful work, and it is to be encouraged and promoted by all means.

Then V.V. Shcherbitskiy told how the voters' orders are being compiled with. In particular, he pointed out, working conditions have been improved at the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Combine and at the Azot Production Association, and four motor bus routes and one street car route have been added. The city has settled the problem of fresh water supply. The Russian Musical and Drama Theater has been rebuilt. The construction of the museum of the history of the city, of the building of automatic telephone exchanges covering 10,000 subscribers, of a children's sports school, of a surgery ward, and of an open-air theater has been completed. In the current year, plans for a bridge across the Dnepr will be completed, and preparations have begun for its construction.

Of course, everything that has been or is being done in the city is a result of the persistent toil of the inhabitants of Dneprodzerzhinsk. One could quote the names of many remarkable toilers. Undoubtedly, you know them. We all wish that the glory of order-decorated Dneprodzershinsk be redoubled by ever new masters in their trades. (applause)

Today one must not keep silent about what has to be done, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy went on. As is known, tasks for the current year and the 12th 5-year period have been defined in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session that examined a draft plan for the country's economic and social development. The main task comes to not only consolidating the positive trends in economic development, but also to redoubling them and doing everything necessary to successfully fulfill the 1985 plan and the 5-year plan as a whole. The economic development rates planned for the current year are higher than in previous years. All collectives and the republic as a whole have adopted high socialist pledges. For this reason it is important in the time remaining to display businesslike initiative and persistence in fulfilling the plans, and to make use of all reserves for this purpose.

To attain the planned targets in all national economic branches of the republic, it is essential above all to make fuller use of the existing production capacities and more rapidly apply the achievements of scientific-technical progress. The point is to mechanize and automate production, to rapidly develop and apply resource-saving equipment and technologies, as well as elastic automated production units, and to make extensive use of microprocessors and biotechnologies. There is no other way to radically increase the effectiveness of communal production.

What is being done in this field at the city's enterprises Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, one may explain in diplomatic terms as follows: "Certain work is being carried out." Since the beginning of the 5-year period, more than 1,770 measures have been taken to apply new equipment, 20 automatic and assembly lines have been installed, and 23 shops and sections have been automated. The figures seem to be impressive, but today that is not enough. It is necessary to do more and better and to do it more quickly. After all, since the beginning of the 5-year period the city's industry has been falling short of the plan for raising labor productivity. The share of workers engaged in underproductive manual labor still remains very considerable. At ferrous metallurgical enterprises and in construction, the mechanization of labor-consuming processes is advancing particularly poorly, and precisely there the level of underproductive and hard labor is much higher than the city's average.

Enterprises are very slow in applying manipulators, although the city has a plant specializing in their production. More attention is to be paid to job certification and the application of brigade contracting, especially since there is no need to look far away for experience -- all that is right at hand in the oblast.

In short, the first task confronting labor collectives and the entire city party organization is to raise labor productivity by all means. In connection with this, the candidate deputy called the attention of the audience to the following figures: Labor productivity increased in the city by 1 percent raises annual industrial production by R17 million, and costs reduced by 0.5 percent are equivalent to production savings worth R7 million.

In responding in deed to the party's call, the republic's labor collectives have pledged to work in the current years at least 2 days on saved resources. To cope with this pledge, the city needs to reduce material outlays by R8 million. The funds earned by above-plan savings, as is known, will be assigned primarily for social needs, in particular for improvements in medical services to the population. This will be a weighty addition to the funds allocated to the city from the state budget, and these funds are considerable. The funds allocated in the current year for housing and civil construction alone (R34 million) are almost one-fourth larger than those spent last year. A general-education school for 1,568 pupils, 2 children's combines with 640 places, and a number of trade and consumer service facilities will be put into service in the city. This year's capital investments in the city's municipal services have also been doubled.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy also touched upon problems concerning the protection of the environment in the city. As is known, he said, upon the initiative of the gorkom and the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, a comprehensive plan has been worked out to improve the environment. A number of measures taken to protect nature have already made it possible into the atmosphere and water. In this respect, deserving commendation is the work performed by the collective of the Pridneprovskiy Chemical Plant. However, a great deal is still to be done to protect the environment at the S. Ordzhonikidze Coke Chemical Plant, the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Combine, the Azot Production Association, and the heat and power plant.

Local soviets are called upon to display more initiative and persistence in their field. After all and unfortunately, the funds allocated for nature protection purposes in the city are not being fully utilized. Of course, this must be remedied.

Having combined the efforts of party, administrative, economic, trade union organizations, and the broad pubic, the utmost is to be done to raise environmental protection in the ctiy on the Dnepr to a level worthy of order-decorated Dneprodzerzhinsk. (applause).

Thus, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, the tasks facing us in the sphere of both economic and sociocultural construction are responsible and difficult. Unfortunately, the prolonged snowfalls and the heavy cold in January disrupted the normal rhythm of work in some areas of the republic. This is why not all collectives coped with their production tasks. What matters now is to organize the work in such a way as to make up for the January omissions.

We must continue, or, more precisely, perform everywhere, constant and purposeful work to improve the organization of production and labor and to strengthen discipline and order. Thus far in this respect, we have only dug up the surface layer, what was literally in the public eye. There are still many reserves in this field and they must be fully utilized.

We should also aspire that all our lives, so to speak, be permeated by the principles of social justice. What does this mean? This means that, by applying primarily the progressive forms of labor organization, we must ensure that labor productivity grows everywhere and that payments are appropriate and fair, in accordance with labor. Whoever works better should earn more -- that must be a norm everywhere.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy also touched upon a problem as topical as the cultivation of modern economic thinking among leading cadres and all workers. Life shows, he said, that what frequently hampers progressive solutions in a particular sector is not the lack of resources or possibilities, but the prevailing stereotype in thinking and the attempts to measure technical and economic progress by yeardsticks that were valid yesterday. But times change and conditions become more complex. What was acceptable even yesterday is no longer suitable today. That is why we must look ahead and resolutely get rid of cliches, routine, and inertia.

The quality of work in the broad sense of the term is increasingly acquiring, one can say, decisive importance. Reliability, quality, and economy -- this is today's slogan for many sectors of the national economy and services. This means that the plan should be fulfilled with fewer workers, smaller energy and metal outlays, and better quality indexes. That is why each brigade and sector should persistently and consistently apply everything that is new and progressive, that is now provided by scientific-technical progress.

This is the only way to accomplish the task set by the party -- to achieve the world's highest standards in labor productivity. The inhabitants of Dneprodzerzhinsk can and must do their utmost to be in the first ranks of the champions of scientific-technical progress! (Applause)

As is known, the candidate deputy continued, a large-scale economic experiment has now been launched in industry and the sphere of services. Early in the current year, the limits of the experiment were expanded. The purpose of the economic experiment is to develop the most effective methods of economic management. Its essence is to broaden the initiative, rights, and to increase the responsibility of labor collectives and their leaders for the final results.

Unfortunately, there are still leaders unable or reluctant to reform, to work in a new way, and to go in step with the requirements of life. Of course, we and they are going two different ways, and the sooner we get rid of them, the better for our common cause.

In every sector, there should be people prepared and able to pursue the party line and to support it with their practical deeds. After all, the work which is now being carried out to improve developed socialism is unprecedented in scale and complexity.

It can only be performed by enterprising and industrious people convinced of the correctness of our cause and profoundly devoted to the socialist homeland, that is, selfless and competent people who know their job. (Applause)

It is a difficult and multiform process to educate such people. What educates them is, above all, our system itself and the nature of a socialist society and the Soviet way of life; what educates them is the family, school, and public organizations. And at the same time everyone participates in the process of education: people influence each other primarily through their own example, behavior, and attitude to work.

A cadre worker, even if he is not listed as an agitator or propagandist, educates people within his circle in the best way when he knows his job well, takes it wholeheartedly, and perfoms it conscientiously. On the contrary, the botcher, the absentee, and the self-seeker harms society not only by the fact that he shirks work himself, but also by corrupting people working alongside him, particularly young people.

For this reason any deviation from the norms of the Soviet way of life and morality frequently has the effect of a malignant virus. No doubt if all join forces and combine efforts; negative phenomena can be eliminated everywhere and high efficiency and quality of work can be ensured in every sector. (Applause).

It is to be admitted, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, that the real advantages of socialism are not always being convincingly shown in our educational work. After all, socialism offers enormous opportunities for all-around development of personality and displaying one's abilities and talents.

At the same time, the goal of capitalism is radically different -- to obtain a maximum profit by any means, including the dirtiest and most criminal ones, and to keep the people of labor in oppression. There are countless examples of this. Just recall how many times you have seen the images of British miners who have been on strike for nearly a year. Under the conditions of the advertised, as they say, "oldest Western democracy," the vital human right to work is being trampled upon, and the miners' protest is being suppressed with unprecedented cruelty.

What disturbs the official authorities is not the disastrous situation of the miners, but the class solidarity manifested by other workers, support and assistance on the part of the international workers class. This is convincing proof that, for capitalism, the interests of the toiling man are worthless. The lofty and truly noble goals of socialism are even more visible against this background.

In the world arena, the Soviet Union comes out in a united and single formation with the fraternal socialist countries. Our common successes scored in the political, socioeconomic, and ideological spheres are significant and indisputable. CEMA member-states have a tangible advantage over capitalist countries into the pace of economic growth. They possess already nearly one-third of the world's scientific potential, and their combined economic potential is larger than that of the United States or the countries of Western Europe.

The influence exerted by the socialist world on the entire development of mankind's history is growing ever stronger and appreciable. Increasingly broader masses are coming to see that socialism is the mainstream of social progress! (Applause).

Imperialist reaction is unable to seriously impede, let alone stop, socialism.

But the deeper the general crisis of capitalism becomes and the more it is entangled in its contradictions, the more desperate and adventurist are the measures to which it may resort. The threat to peace has significantly increased in connection with the continuing deployment of new first-strike nuclear missiles targeted at the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community.

Highly disturbing are also, let us say it straight, the shameful attempts made by some circles in the West (and not only in the West) to revise the postwar structure in Europe and in the world as a whole, to let the fruits of the victory over German fascism and Japanese militarism go with the wind.

But no one is able to rewrite history! (applause). The preservation of peace and, above all, the prevention of nuclear war have become a task of importance for all mankind. History has imposed on socialism the difficult and responsible mission of parrying the threat of nuclear war hanging over mankind. And the world's peoples are seeing this ever more clearly.

This is why the Leninist peace-loving foreign policy pursued by the CPSU and the Soviet state has won deep respect on the part of all progressive mankind. (applause).

The purport of our state's peaceful initiatives is clear and dear to every sober-minded person; it meets the hopes of all peoples. Particularly important is the new initiative of the Soviet Union concerning talks with the United States on the entire complex of interconnected problems of precluding the militarization of outer space and the reduction of strategic nuclear weapons and medium-range nuclear means. The first step has been made toward a dialogue between the two countries; the situation in the world as a whole depends to a large extent on the state of relations between the two.

The principled novelty of the forthcoming talks lies in the fact that the problems of space and nuclear weapons are inseparable and should be discussed and settled comprehensively. The Soviet Union firmly insisted and continues to insist upon this point.

In his replies to questions from a correspondent of CNN television, Comrade K.U. Chernenko pointed out that the presence of goodwill, readiness for sensible compromises, and strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security were required from each side for the success of the forthcoming new Soviet-American talks.

I would like to hope that the United States will display realism and act precisely this way. The Washington administration and its NATO allies must take into account the enormous worldwide prestige of the consistent and principled position of the Soviet Union and the socialist community concerning the vital problems of war and peace. They also cannot wave aside the growing mass antiwar movement and the public demands in their own countries to prevent the threat of nuclear war not by words, but by deeds.

While protecting the peaceful toil of the Soviet people and taking steps necessary to improve the international situation, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy continued, our party's Central Committee and government are at the same time taking trouble to maintain at due level the country's defense capacity. History has repeatedly confirmed and continues to confirm that the attempts to talk to our country in the language of moral admonitions and threats, from the position of strength, are an absolutely hopeless undertaking. (applause) And we are not affraid of any "crusade" against communism. (applause).

No one will ever succeed in shaking the close moral and political unity of the Soviet people, their monolithic cohesion around the Leninist party, and their devotion to the ideals of communism. (applause).

We are confident in the rightness of our cause, we are confident in our forces, we are capable of reliably defending our land, our system, and way of life -- and this is what we are effectively doing! (prolonged applause).

At the end Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said: Allow me, esteemed comrades, to offer my cordial thanks to you, to Leonid Romanovich Komarov, my agent, to all those present, as well as to the speakers at the present meeting for the good and warm words directed to our Leninist Communist Party and its Central Committee. (applause).

For my part, allow me to assure you that I will make every effort to carry out my duty to the party and the people irreproachably and to justify the high confidence of the voters. (applause)

I wish you all, and through you all inhabitants of Dneprodzerzhinsk, good health, happiness, and prosperity (applause), I wish you success in completing the plans for the current year and welcoming our party's 27th congress in a worthy way. (stormy, prolonged applause).

DPA: CIVIL RIGHTS CAMPAIGNER ARRESTED IN KALININ

LD251732 Hamburg DPA in German 1620 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Frankfurt, 25 Feb (DPA) -- The Frankfurt-based International Society for Human rights (IGFM) reports today that the Soviet civil rights campaigner Vyacheslav Bakhmin (37) from Moscow has been rearrested in Kalinin. He is a cofounder of the working group for the investigation of the misuse of psychiatry for political purposes and was arrested on Friday [22 February]. A physicist by profession, he was first arrested in 1969 and held for 10 months for distributing leaflets. In 1980 he was arrested and sentenced to 3 years in a labor camp because of his membership in the working group to investigate the misuse of psychiatry. In the camp he was sentenced to a further year in custody and released only in 1984 when he was forbidden to live in Moscow with his family. He then settled in Kalinin.

ECONOMICS ACADEMICIAN CRITICIZES DECENTRALIZATION

PM251451 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Feb 85 p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Professor V. Cheplanov, director of the Price Formation Scientific Research Institute, under the rubric "Improving the Economic Mechanism": "Harmony of Interests; Centralized Management Is No Bar to Increased Enterprise Independence"]

[Text] I think that today there is no need for a detailed explanation of what is meant by the economic term "financial autonomy'" It is the principle of a healthy economy. It is axiomatic that financial autonomy is the key to success, but the point is that complete self-financing [samookupayemost] cannot be applied in absolutely all cases in economic life. There are industrial sectors and subsectors which require greater capital investment -- the fuel and energy and mining sectors, for instance, or the sectors determining scientific and technical progress. To build, say, a nuclear power station or open up gas deposits in Urengoy and lay a pipeline to the European part of the country requires considerable funds. Where will they come from if the sector is transferred to complete self-financing? There is only one way out -- sharply hiking the prices of its output so that revenue is higher and there are more funds for capital investment.

But if the prices of the output of capital-intensive sectors increase, they will also increase in consumer sectors. Thus, a chain reaction will ultimately lead to an increase in the general level of wholesale prices. What is so terrible about that, you might think; after all it is not a question of retail prices. But that is the judgement of a dilettante. The growth of output prime cost in the sectors consuming these more expensive articles will inevitably entail an increase in retail prices too.

Yet, the situation in heavy industry sectors is not simple. Prices for the output of heavy industry sectors, which were usually stable over the course of 10 years, must now, according to the new system, remain unchanged for a period of not less than 5 years. If high prices making it possible to obtain a large income are set, the result is that, in the initial period that the prices are in force, the sectors will even have superfluous resources for self-financing purposes. But over the years (as work becomes more expensive) funds will clearly be insufficient and the sectors will find themselves in a difficult possition.

The question may arise: Why not review wholesale prices more often -- every 2 to 3 years, say, or even better, annually? That is unrealistic for both producers and consumers. Moreover, the economic normative calculated for the 5-year plan will lose stability if prices change frequently.

Perhaps we could go over entirely to "flexible" prices and renounce centralized planning of them; that is, turn prices into the main lever for regulating the economy as a counterweight to the plan.

However to see the issue in this way is fundamentally wrong and runs counter to the basic principles of socialist economics. Planned prices make it possible to resolve the cardinal questions of leadership of the economy. What is meant by this? Accounting and monitoring of the distribution and utlization of the social product and national income and the determination of national economic and results, labor productivity, and the pace and proportions of expanded reproduction. There is also the choice of the most rational economic solutions, economic incentives for production activity, monitoring of the extent of labor and consumption, guaranteed growth in the population's real income...It is a question of managing the entire national economic complex, and "flexible" prices will have a negative influence on the entire system.

The principle of self-financing is also entirely inapplicable to agricultural production. The main aim here is to unconditionally fulfill the food program, and considerable capital investment is needed to implement it. Under conditions of complete self-financing this expenditure is impossible without significant increases in the purchase prices of agricultural products. In such a case retail prices may rise too, meaning that the work can only be carried out effectively if it is financed from centralized sources.

Certain scientists, even famous ones, also exaggerate the importance of contractual relations between suppliers and customers, proposing them as the sole basis for our production relations. This is a profoundly mistaken opinion. The development of contractual principles is only possible on the firm basis of centralized planning of the main indicators of enterprises' economic activity, with unconditional priority being given to statewide interests. This is the be-all and end-all of our socialist economics.

Why dwell in such detail on this question? Because it is of fundamental importance and a subject of heated debate among economists. Most generally, it is a question of two diametrically opposed concepts concerning the strategy of economic development in the near future. Should the role and responsibility of ministries in managing the national economy be increased, or, on the contrary, should their influence be reduced by following the path of decentralizing the management of the economy? Here are two different paths. Which one to choose? Certain economists propose relieving ministries of responsibility for the results of the day-to-day economic activity of enterprises, associations, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes. In this case, they believe, enterprises will satisfy their needs for various goods on their own initiative, working on the basis of contracts and complete self-financing. They will have to cover both current and capital expenditure from their own income. In line with the concept, state influence on enterprises must be implemented mainly through indirect economic levers: the prices system, financing conditions, payment for resources, and so forth. The main argument is this: The centralized management of the economy does not provide adequate incentives for our progress.

Is that so? In our opinion, the failings in the organization of the economy are caused by no means by the centralization of management, but, first and foremost, by the substitution of petty tutelage for the planned leadership of enterprises and associations implemented on a scientific basis. This, of course, has a negative effect on work indicators. Thus, it is necessary above all to eradicate this shortcoming. As the country's national economy develops, the role of ministries and departments as the headquarters of sector management must be stepped up. Workers at this level must be capable of strategic maneuvers, swiftly resolve current tactical tasks, and efficiently utilize material and labor resources.

Currently, as practice shows, ministries and departments often channel their main efforts into something else entirely -- obtaining for the sector more of the necessary resources and substantiating unintensive plan targets for enterprises and associations. The allocated resources are then "spread out" among most enterprises, which does not ensure the necessary pace of sector development or a substantial increase in production efficiency. Would the decentralization of management based on the complete self-financing of sectors and, naturally, all enterprises and associations, rectify the situation? On the contrary, it would lead to a deepening of negative trends.

We stress: It is undoubtedly necessary to increase enterprise independence and develop initiative and socialist enterprises -- there can be no two opinions on that score. This is the aim of the large-scale economic experiments after which the model of the economic mechanism for the 12th 5-Year Plan is being shaped. Enterprises and associations must expand their independence and substantially increase their responsibility for the fulfillment of state plans.

Financial autonomy is really necessary here, but within the framework of a planned economy. This is what ministries and departments should be actively engaged in. They are called upon to ensure the reliable operation of the "drive belts" from the national economic plan through to the programs for the economic and social development of sectors and, subsequently, to association and enterprise plans.

In our opinion there should be considerably fewer specialists in ministries and departments than there are today, but the level of their qualifications needs to be extremely high. Here more than anywhere it is important to observe the principle "not numbers, but skill." It is necessary to increase the economic leadership's level of competence and make fuller use of the experience of front-ranking collectives.

"...Our plans and economic practice must be substantiated not just in an economic way but in POLITICAL ECONOMY [capitalized words published in italics] way," Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted in his article "Equal to the Demands of Developed Socialism." When discussing ways of improving the economic mechanism, it is necessary to remember that centralized planning is an integral element of socialist economics.

ENTIRE TATAR STRAIT AGAIN OPEN FOR SHIPPING

PM271337 Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 Feb 85 p 4

[N. Gureyev: "Overcoming Ice and Pack Ice"]

[Text] Khabarovsk -- Soviet seamen have defeated the elements which had cut vital transportation links in the Tatar Strait. The ice-breaker Fedor Litke led a convey of ships through the extensive ice fields to De-Kastri, the northernmost year-round harbor in the strait, restoring shipping throughout the entire Tatar Strait.

According to hydrologists and meteorologists, the conditions that developed in the strait this winter had never before occurred. Unprecedented storms packed the ice in several layers, and the subsequent freeze turned it into impenetrable armor. Scores of ships were caught in the ice. Even the powerful ferry boats could not make their own way from the mainland to the islands region. The ice-breakers Yermak, Fedor Litke, Moskva, and Vladivostok came to help and led the ships out of the ice. Regular traffic has been restored on the Vanino-Kholmsk ferry service, and freight is being shipped to northern ports in the Tatar Strait and to Japan.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL, GAS DEPOSITS -- Tomsk geologists discovered 17 new deposits of oil and gas in the (Narym) Tayga. (Kedrovyy), a base town for Tomsk oilmen, is developing near the early Siberian settlement of Pudino. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 24 Feb 85 LD]

KYURSYANGI OIL STRIKE -- A test well with a planned depth of 5,500 m was successfully mastered at a site in southern Kyursyangi. This has gushed oil steadily from the 14th horizon of the productive stratum for over 10 days; the flow rate is 50 tons every 24 hours. Extraction of oil from the well demonstrates the promising nature of the search for the valuable hydrocarbon raw material at the low horizons. The Kyursyangi boring work administration of Azneft is carrying out the boring of another three wells down to deeper lying horizons. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Feb 85 LD]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONFERENCE DISCUSSES INCREASING GRAIN CROP YIELDS

LD271934 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 85

[From the "Land and People" program]

[Text] An all-union conference devoted to ways of increasing the country's grain crop production convened today at the USSR National Economic Achievements Exhibition. Comrade Gulenko, USSR deputy minister of agriculture, delivered a speech in which he noted that the transition to intensive development of grain crop production is one of today's primary agricultural tasks. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes in various parts of the country have already attained world grain crop production indices. It is now essential for such levels to be reached throughout the country, and a good base for this has been created.

During the present 5-year plan the amount of fertilizer applied per hectare of grain-crop-producing land has grown by almost one-third. The scale of chemical soil improvement and the use of organic fertilizer have increased. Now we are tackling the problem of introducing as fully as possible new intensive technology developed by scientists. This will help us not only to achieve big harvests but also to produce grain crops containing more protein, gluten, and other valuable properties.

Farm leaders and agronomists told the conference about experience in obtaining big harvests through the use of intensive technology. Thus, Vasiliy Mikhaylovich Tkachuk, chairman of the Prapor Komunizmu Kolkhoz in Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast, Hero of Socialist Labor and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, reported that last year his farm harvested 52 quintals of grain crops per hectare, 2.5 times more than the rayon average. They thoroughly prepared the soil and carried out additional crop treatment, top-dressing, and pest control. All this was justified by an increased yeild.

All those who spoke at the conference noted the need to thoroughly study new technology in every kolkhoz and sovkhoz of the country. The conference continues tomorrow. The participants will familiarize themselves with new agricultural machinery.

KUNAYEV ATTENDS ALMA-ATA AGRICULTURAL MEETING

LD272032 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] A conference of party, soviet, and economic officials and representatives of leading representatives of farms and complexes of the republic was held today in Alma-Ata. It was devoted to the broad introduction of economic autonomy and collective contracts in livestock farming and the intensification or organizational and political work among livestock farmers. The conference was opened by Comrade Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan.

It was noted in the report and in the speeches that collective contracts in livestock farming are becoming a reliable guarantee of rational management; yet, it possibilities are by no means being utilized to the full. The conference delegates mapped out ways to solve the problems connected with the further intensification of livestock farming. The conference was addressed by Anisovets, deputy head of the Department of Agriculture and Food Industry of the CPSU Central Committee.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN REPORTS MID-FEBRUARY WEATHER, CROPS

PM261527 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Feb 85 p 2

[Agrometeorologist T. Ivashneva report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The weather remained cold over most of the country's Eurpean territory during the last 10 days. The average air temperature in the western half of the territory was 7-11 degrees below (12 degrees in places), and in the eastern half 1-6 degrees below normal. Only in Kuybyshev Oblast, eastern Saratov Oblast, and southern Tataria was the temperature near normal, while in Bashkiria it was 1-4 degrees higher. Over most of the territory the minimum air temperature fell to minus 26-33 degrees, while in the northern, Northwest, and Urals Regions, the northern Central Region, and Estonia it fell to minus 34-40 degrees.

There were snowfalls. The largest falls (30-70 mm) occurred in the southeastern Ukraine, most of Krasnodar Kray, Rostov Oblast, central Volgograd and Saratov Oblasts, and parts of Penza and Kuybyshev Oblasts. This volume of precipitation is two to four times greater than normal. The deepest snow cover, 40-60 cm (and more in places) was recorded in the northern, Northwest, Central, Volgo-Vyatka, and Urals Regions, the northern half of the Volga Region, eastern Latvia, and most of the Central Chernozem Region.

The wintering of winter crops was proceeding successfully, and the frost was not dangerous for the perennial grasses. The frosty weather may have caused frost shake on the fruit tree trunks and may also have damaged the leaf and fruit buds of kernel crops.

During the first half of the 10-day period, the weather in the Transcaucasian republics was warm. Maximum air tempratures over most of Georgia, in Azerbaijan, and in southern Armenia rose to 19-24 degrees, and to 6-14 degrees over the rest of the territory. During this period the winter grain crops were vegetating in the daylight hours. The weather turned colder during the second half of the 10-day period, and snow fell. The snowfall reached 10-30 mm, and in places 35-60 mm. A snow cover up to 10-20 cm deep, and in places up to 25-40 cm, settled in Georgia and Armenia. Snow is lying only in some places in Azerbaijan.

Moderate frost weather predominated over most of the agricultural regions in West Siberia and northeastern Kazakhstan. The average air temperature during the 10-day period was either close to normal or 2-4 degrees below it. Nevertheless, frosts down to minus 26-35 degrees were recorded some nights.

The weather remained cold in the extreme east of Novosibirsk and Tomsk Oblasts, in Kemerovo Oblast, and in the agricultural regions of East Siberia. The average temperature for the 10-day period was 5-11 degrees below, and in the northeast of Krasnoyarsk Kray and the north of Irkutsk Oblast 12-16 degrees below normal. Frosts there reached 35-48 degrees, and in places even 55 degrees, but even these tempratures posed no danger for wintering crops, since the seeds are covered by a deep layer of snow almost everywhere.

In the Central Asian regions, the snow cover line runs through the north of Mangyshlak Oblast, the center of Kzyl-Orda Oblast, the north of Chimkent Oblast, and the north of Tashkent Oblast, reaching Kirgizia. The average air temperature there was 2-5 degrees above normal. It was particularly warm in the middle of the 10-day period, when daytime air temeratures reached 12-23 degrees, and up to 28 degrees in southern Turkmenia. Winter grain crops in Turkmenia, Tajikistan, and the southern half of Uzbekistan continued to grow, spring biological processes were resumed in fruit and berry crops, and fruit buds started swelling on apricot and cherry trees.

TWO COSMOS EARTH SATELLITES LAUNCHED 27 FEB

Cosmos-1630

LD271823 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1729 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow, 27 Feb TASS -- The latest artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1630, was launched in the Soviet Union today for the purpose of continuing space research. It was put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of rotation --89.6 minutes; maximun distance from the earth's surface --357 kilometers, minimum distance --182 kilometers; inclination of orbit --64.9 degrees. The equipment installed on the satellite is functioning normally.

Cosmos-1631

LD271949 Moscow TASS in English 1938 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched another "Cosmos" series artificial satellite today to carry on its space exploration effort. The "Cosmos-1631" satellite was placed into the orbit with the following parameters: Initial period of revolution is 94.5 minutes, maxinum distance from the surface of the earth is 517 and minimun --474 kilometers, inclination of the orbit is 65.9 degrees. The equipment aboard the satellite is functioning normally.

EXTENSION OF TELEVISION NETWORK REPORTED

LD271907 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 27 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by S. Sergeyev]

[Summary] The oilmen in settlements of Kalamkas and Karazhanbas have been given the opportunity of watching Central Television programs in color. Since the start of the 5-year plan, 17 stations receiving signals from communications satellites and 23 transmitters have been put into operation. Thanks to the Orbita space communications station, the oblast center of Shevchenko receives three programs -- two from Moscow and one from Alma-Ata. The people of Novyy Uzen will also soon be able to watch the second nationwide television program. This year it is planned to put a test radio-relay line into operation on a 130-km section, via which the television signal will be transmitted using the energy of solar batteries. This is the first time such a system has been created in our country. It has been devised specially for desert regions at the Central Communications Research Institute. Video shows transmission and reception gear at the station.

FURTHER REPORTS, ACTIVITIES ON ARMY, NAVY DAY

General Shabanov Article

PM271032 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 8, Feb 85 (Signed to Press 18 Feb 85) p 5

[Article by Hero of Socialist Labor Army General V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister for armaments: "Motherland's Reliable Shield"]

[Excerpt] Soviet people do not forget for a minute the very great ordeals which our people had to endure for victory over the enemy, and to ensure that June 1941 is not repeated servicemen are constantly on the alert, at full combat readiness to repel any aggression.

Maintaining Combat Readiness

Last year the Army and Navy servicemen worked fruitfully. The combat readiness of formations, units, and ships increased, and the personnel's combat skill improved. This was considerably assisted by socialist competition, which encompassed various spheres of Army and Navy life and became an inalienable part of the training and educational process.

The initiators of competition in the branches of the Armed Forces successfully fulfilled the socialist pledges they had assumed. The Defense Ministry and the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, having examined the appeals and pledges of the personnel of leading units and ships, approved them, and urged all servicemen to actively join in socialist competition under the slogan "Our selfless martial labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!"

The defense of the motherland against aggression depends to an enormous extent on the level of economic development, the pace of scientific-technical progress, and the provision of the Army and Navy with modern combat equipment and weapons. Selfless labor at plants and on fields and the successful fulfillment of the 5-year plan strengthen the country's economy and therefore its defense might. Fundamental transformations in the technical equipment of the toops and naval forces have been effected in the country's Armed Forces. Their strike power, mobility, and fire power have increased, and combat readiness, the main indicator of their qualitative state, has risen to a new level.

The strategic nuclear forces, which consist of formations and divisions of the Strategic Rocket Forces, Navy, and Air Force, are the main element of combat might under present conditions and the basic factor in restraining the aggressor. Their creation was an enforced response to the threats of imperialism.

The strategic missiles have powerful thermonuclear charges, possess a high degree of accuracy, and are in a state of constant combat readiness.

The Ground Forces motorized rifle and armored divisions have hundreds of modern tanks, infantry combat vehicles, and armored transport vehicles and a sufficient quantity of self-propelled artillery and combat helicopters. The Ground Forces' fire and strike power is made up of tactical and operational-tactical artillery and missile weapons.

Air Force formations and units are equipped with supersonic all-weather aircraft and automated weapon and flight control systems, powerful propulsion systems, and various missile armaments.

The Air Defense Forces possess formidable weapons. They are equipped with multiple [mnogokanalnyye] air defense missile complexes with a high degree of effectiveness in striking airborne targets and with modern interceptor aircraft complexes.

Our Navy's formations and units, possessing nuclear submarines with a varied arsenal of missile and torpedo weapons, naval missile-carrying aircraft, powerful surface ship armaments, and naval infantry, can perform operational and tactical tasks with a great degree of autonomy on ocean and sea theaters.

The power of our armaments is a measure which has been forced on us. "The Soviet Union," K.U. Chernenko has stressed, "consistently opposes any attempts to break the prevailing military equilibrium. We are in favor of a radical reduction of the arsenals of nuclear and conventional armaments on the basis of parity and identical security and of total disarmament and the abolition of nuclear weapons."

The USSR's defense capability and our Armed Forces' combat readiness are up to the standard of modern requirements. The Soviet Armed Forces fulfill their great historic mission to defend the gains of socialism alongside the armies of the fraternal socialist countries. The Warsaw Pact organization, the European socialist countries' defensive military-political alliance whose 30th anniversary will be celebrated in May 1985, plays a large part in curbing the imperialist aggressors and thwarting their designs fatal to mankind. The Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces are a firm shield for safeguarding the peaceful life of the socialist community countries.

General Lushev Article

PM261517 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 3

[Article by Hero of the Soviet Union Army General P. Lushev, commander of the Moscow Military District: "The Fatherland's Loyal Sons"]

[Text] The Soviet people and their Armed Forces are celebrating Soviet Army and Navy Day today. This day has long been a nationwide holiday. There probably is not a family in our country which does not have the closest links with the Army. Invariably, in every family there is someone who fought on the fronts of the civil or the Great Patriotic War, defending the motherland, or has done his military service, or is fulfilling this honorable duty of a Soviet citizens at the moment.

This feeling of involvement, as pure as spring water, is the source of the people's love for their defenders. Flesh of their own people's flesh, Soviet servicemen share with them their thoughts and their aspirations. Just like millions of Soviet people, they are rallying more closely around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee. Expressing ardent approval and support for the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy, the defenders of the motherland are persistently, day in, day out, stepping up their efforts in the competition under the combat slogan "Our selfless military labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!"

The birth of our Army is linked with the name of great Lenin. He comprehensively substantiated the necessity of the defense of the socialist fatherland and elaborated the principles of Soviet military building. V.I. Lenin's role in the resolution of practical questions of the organization of the young worker-peasant Red Army was also invaluable. He took an interest in literally everything: from the servicemen's mood to the provision of weapons and food for them.

As founder and leader of the party, he paid special attention to boosting the party's influence on all aspects of the Army's life and activities. On his initiative almost all outstanding party figures engaged in political work among the troops, and he himself was the first to set an example. Between March 1918 and 1921 Vladimir Ilich met and addressed units leaving for the front, commanders, Red Army servicemen, and students attending academies and courses of the Moscow Garrison on more than 70 occasions.

Even at that time, the Communists acted as the cementing force in the Army. They served as models of true courage and heorism and of the desire to uphold the gains of October at all costs. Today it is impossible to read without emotion the dispatch of the republic Revolutionary Military Council Political Directorate dating back to the civil war. It says: "Future historians will note with amazement that in trying to estimate the chances of victory, those in charge sometimes counted more carefully how many Communists rather than how many guns and machine guns were on hand."

The Red Army's combat glory, born in the first years of Soviet power, was augmented during the years of the Great Patriotic War. The Soviet Armed Forces covered their battle standards with unfading glory. Their path to the great victory was not an easy one. The path to defeated Berlin led through icy days and nights of the battle for Moscow, through the blinding snow of Stalingrad, through the fire of the Kursk and Nevskaya Dubrovka battles, and through the marshes of Belorussia. And everywhere, in all parts of their sacred land, Soviet servicemen displayed unparalleled heroism. The motherland awarded orders and medals to more than 7 million of them, and 11,603 servicemen received the supreme award, the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Our Armed Forces are known throughout the world as the Army which brought freedom to the peoples of many states in Europe and Asia. At this very moment, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the great victory, certain people are trying to cast doubt on the USSR's contribution to the rout of fascism. Yet, the facts of history are incontrovertible and nobody will succeed in wiping the unparalleled feat of Soviet servicemen from the peoples' grateful memory.

Almost 7 decades have elapsed since the days of February 1918 when the army of the Land of the Soviets was born. Over these years it has changed beyond recognition. Now the cavalry combat saber, the famous "Maximum" machine gun, and the legendary machine gun cart can only be seen in a museum. Our present-day Army and Navy are a mighty combat organism equipped with everything necessary to reliably defend the gains of October. Even in comparision with the final stage of the Great Patriotic War, the USSR Armed Forces have moved far ahead. They now possess a vast combat and technical potential.

Take, for instance, the Strategic Rocket Forces, which form the basis of the combat might of the Soviet Army and Navy. They are equipped with intercontinental and medium-range missiles and the latest automated control systems and are in a state of constant readiness to deliver a retaliatory strike against an aggressor.

The face of the Ground Forces has changed. In a modern motorized rifle division firepower and total ergine capacity have increased tens of times over compared with a Great Patriotic War division. The Air Force combat potential has increased greatly. Our aviation is now missile-carrying and supersonic aviation. Our Air Division Forces now have reliable air attack warning systems, antiaircraft missile complexes, capable of hitting targets over a wide range of altitudes, and first-class interceptors. The combat might of our Navy, especially that of its nuclear-powered submarines equipped with nuclear missile weapons, is tremendous.

Radical changes have taken place in the makeup of the Army's personnel and in the whole training and educational process. The ideological conviction and political awareness of servicemen and their selfless devotion to the cause of the Communist Party and their socialist motherland have become still firmer. Qualities such as heroism and valor are entirely typical of the country's defenders, and when the situation requires, Soviet servicemen clearly show themselves to be ardent patriots and proven internationalists.

Anyone who has worn the Army greatcoat knows how difficult military service is. Every day is filled with intensive military labor: studies, exercises in the field, air, and at sea, 24-hour stints of duty, combat duty. And everything that a serviceman does leaves its imprint on his consciousness and helps to mold his character. Days and months pass, and yesterday's workers, kolkhoz members, and students change beyond recognition. They grow into men, become hardened, and acquire broad political and cultural horizons. This is how the educational role of our Armed Forces, which the party highly appreciates, manifests itself.

"The Soviet Army," Comrade K.U. Chernenko stressed in his speech at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries, "is both a school for patriotic maturity and school for instilling genuine and real, rather than merely verbal, socialist internationalism. Its ranks now include representatives of all our country's nationalities, and the bonds of military friendship formed here link many of them for the rest of their lives."

Like all Soviet people, the armed defenders of our motherland understand that the lovers of military adventures have learned nothing from the lessons of history. As is well known, reactionary imperialist circles have now embarked on the road of new military preparations in an effort to gain military superiority over the USSR and are rallying all their allies in a "crusade" against communism. These are the political forces "to whom" as Comrade K.U. Chernenko put it, "goodwill is alien and who are deaf to the appeals of reason. And an irreplaceable role is played here by the restraining might of our defense potential. It is now not only the guarantee of the Soviet people's creative labor but also the guarantee of world peace." The servicemen of the USSR Armed Forces are justly proud of being directly involved in resolving this lofty and noble task. They persistently enhance their combat readiness and tirelessly improve combat skills.

The feats of the heroes of the Great Patriotic War inspire the present defenders of the motherland to strive for successes in military labor. In our military district 26 Heroes of the Soviet Union have been entered forever on the rolls of companies, batteries, and air squardrons. Among them are the hero tankmen Junior Lieutenant V.A. Yermolayev, Sergeant A.A. Timofeyev, Detachment Commander Senior Sergeant N.M. Novitskiy, fighter pilot Lieutenant Ye. V. Mikhaylov, and others. Emulating them is a matter of honor for every servicemen. Currently, for instance, the patriotic movement for the right to carry out firings and missile launches and to maintain and operate hardware in the name of regimental heroes is becoming more and more widespread. In the Guards Kantemir Tank Division, for instance, this movement takes place under the slogan "Shoot like Yermolayev and drive like Timofeyev."

The current generation of Soviet servicemen, loyal to the ideals of internationalism, is worthily continuing the traditions of its fathers and grandfathers. Our servicemen are serving with honor on the soil of the fraternal Hungarian, GDR, Polish, and Czechoslovak peoples. Together with the servicemen of the other socialist countries that are members of the Warsaw Pact, which has stood guard over peace and socialism for the past 30 years, they reliably protest the revolutionary gains against aggressive imperialist intrigues.

The lofty combat and spiritual qualities of our servicemen, ardent patriots, and internationalists are vividly displayed on the soil of friendly Afghanistan. Fulfilling their international duty in the limited contingent of Soviet forces in the DRA, they are helping the working people to defend the gains of the revolution and to protect the young and still fragile republic from the encroachments of reactionary and aggressive forces.

Here, as always, Soviet servicemen display courage and heroism. Among those who have distinguished themselves is Captain Georgiy Kudinov. For his feats on the soil of friendly Afghanistan he has been decorated with the Order of the Red Star and the medal "For Combat Services." Recently he was put to another test. A serviceman accidentally dropped a grenade inside a tank. Saving the life of his subordinate, the officer shielded him from the blast with his own body. Georgiy Kudinov sustained 64 shrapnel wounds. He is now serving in the capital's military district and was recently presented with another award -- a second Order of the Red Star.

The creators of the great victory have worthy successors. Loyal to the traditions of the older generations, Soviet servicemen are filled with the patriotic desire to selflessly serve their motherland and the cause of socialism and to pass on the baton of glory. It is in reliable hands.

PRC, Other Celebrations

PM251233 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 24 February in its Second Edition publishes on page 3 a series of TASS reports under the general heading "In Honor of Glorious Anniversary" on the celebration of Soviet Army and Navy Day in the USSR and in various foreign countries. The item begins:

"On 23 February Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister, held a reception at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army to mark the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

"The reception was attended by marshals of the Soviet Union, marshals of the categories of troops, generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, veterans of the Great Patriotic War, and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

"The guests included the military, naval, and air attaches of the embassies of foreign states in the USSR. The reception took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere."

The item goes on to report on ceremonies held in Berlin, Sofia, Budapest, Warsaw, Prague, Bucharest, Belgrade, Ulaan-Baatar, and Pyongyang to mark Soviet Army and Navy Day and continues:

"Beijing -- on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy Day, representatives of local organs of power and branches of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society in Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning, and Hubei Provinces and in the Nei Mongol Autonomous Region laid wreaths at monuments to the Soviet servicemen who fell in the fighting against Japanese militarism and for the liberation of China in Harbin, Changchun Dalian, Wuhan, and other cities.

"Employees of the USSR Embassy in the PRC laid wreaths at the monuments to Soviet servicemen."

The item then reports receptions held at USSR Embassies in Warsaw, Prague, Havana, and Ulaan-Baatar.